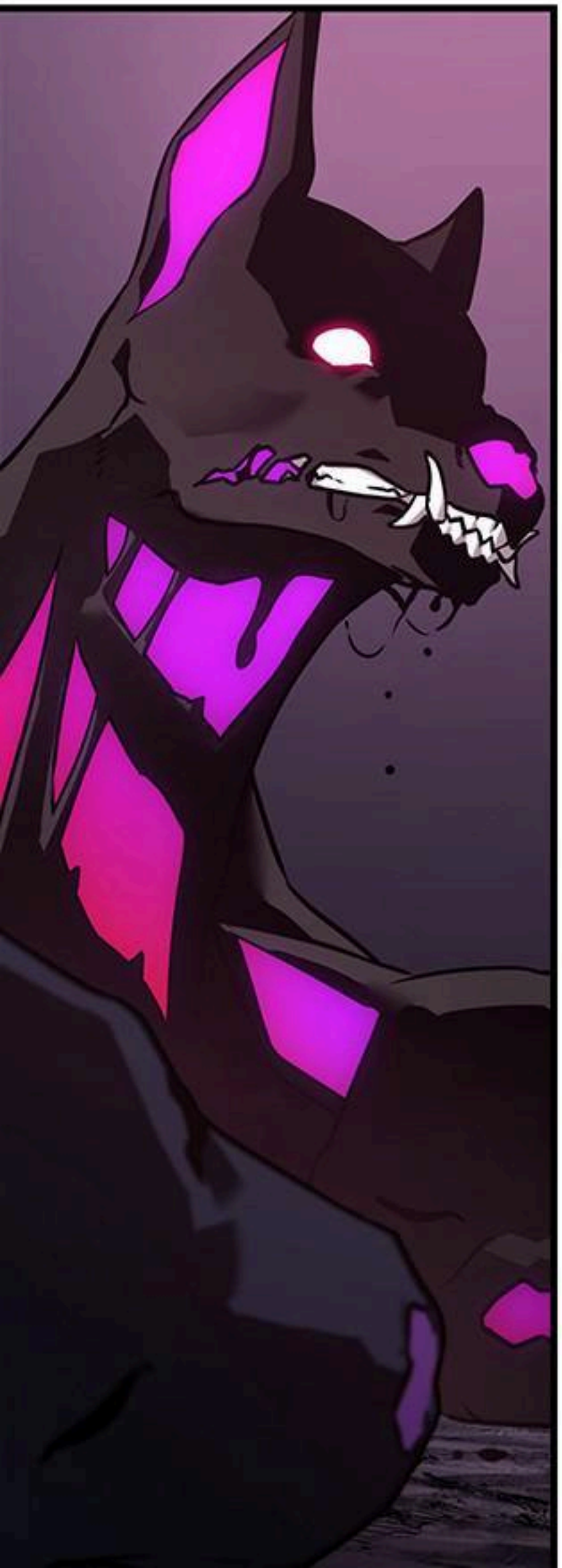
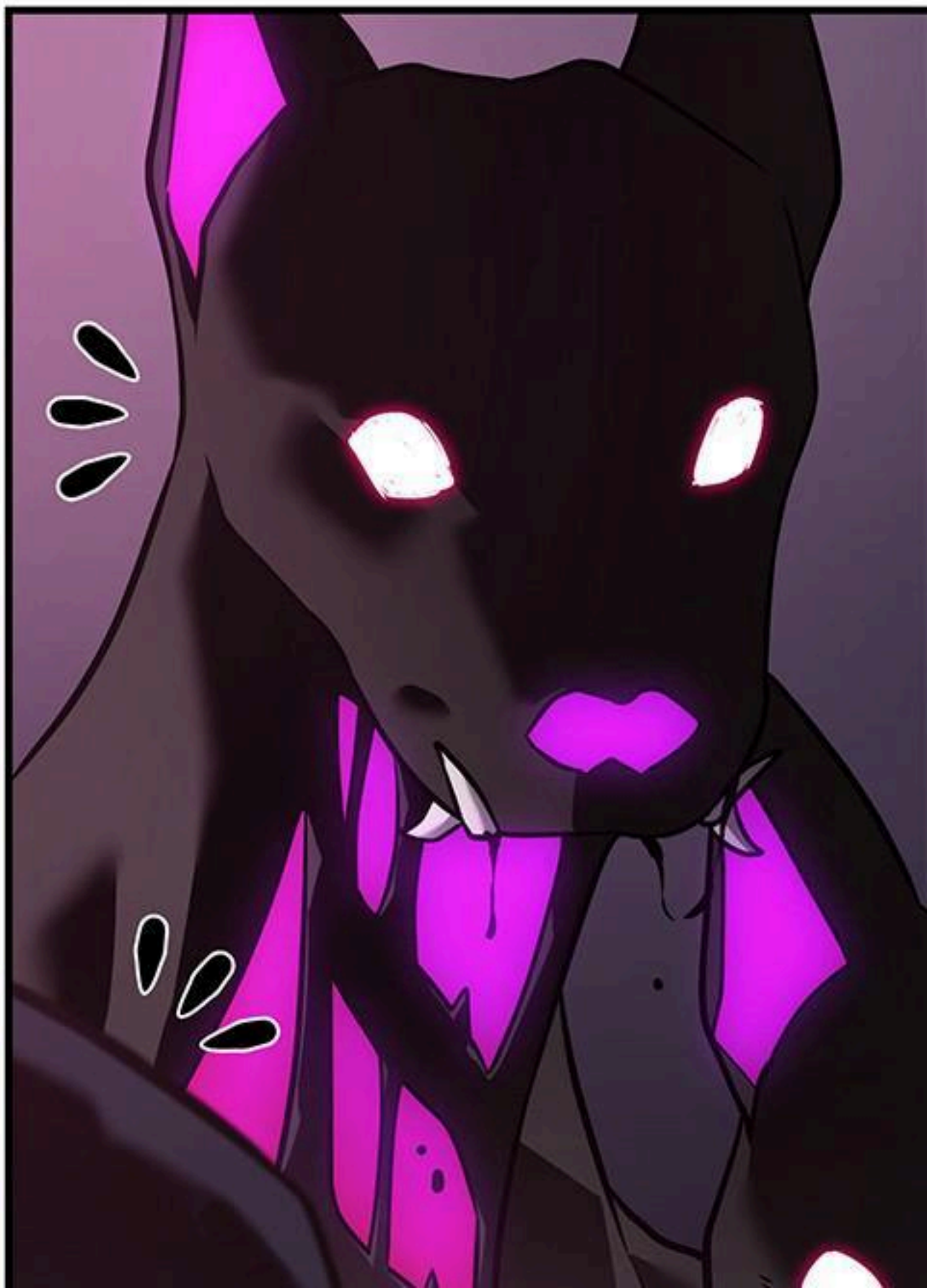
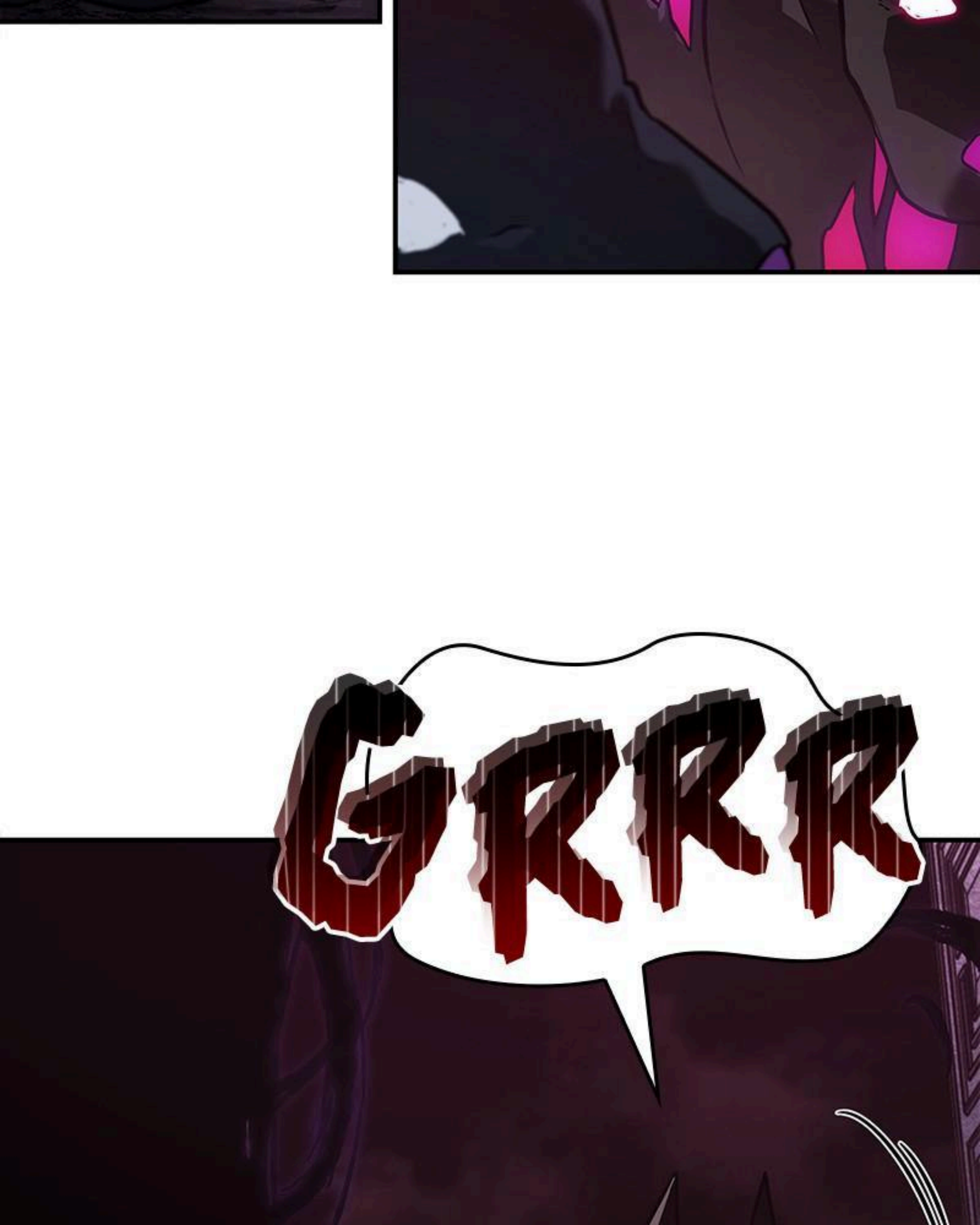
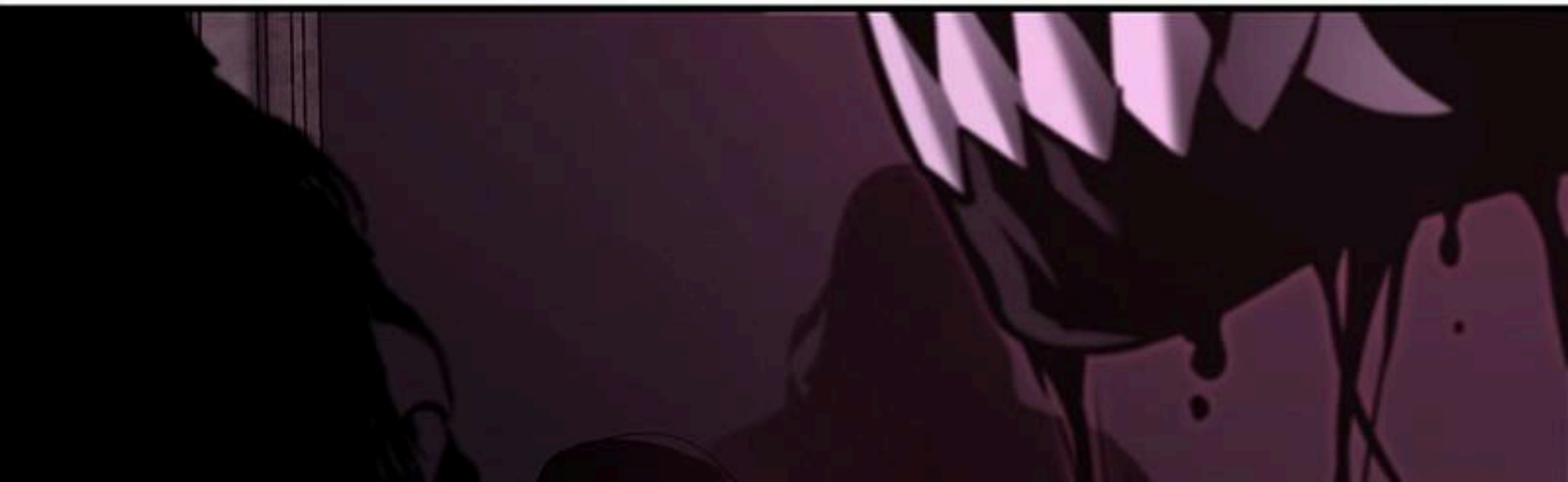





GRRR

WOF
WOF

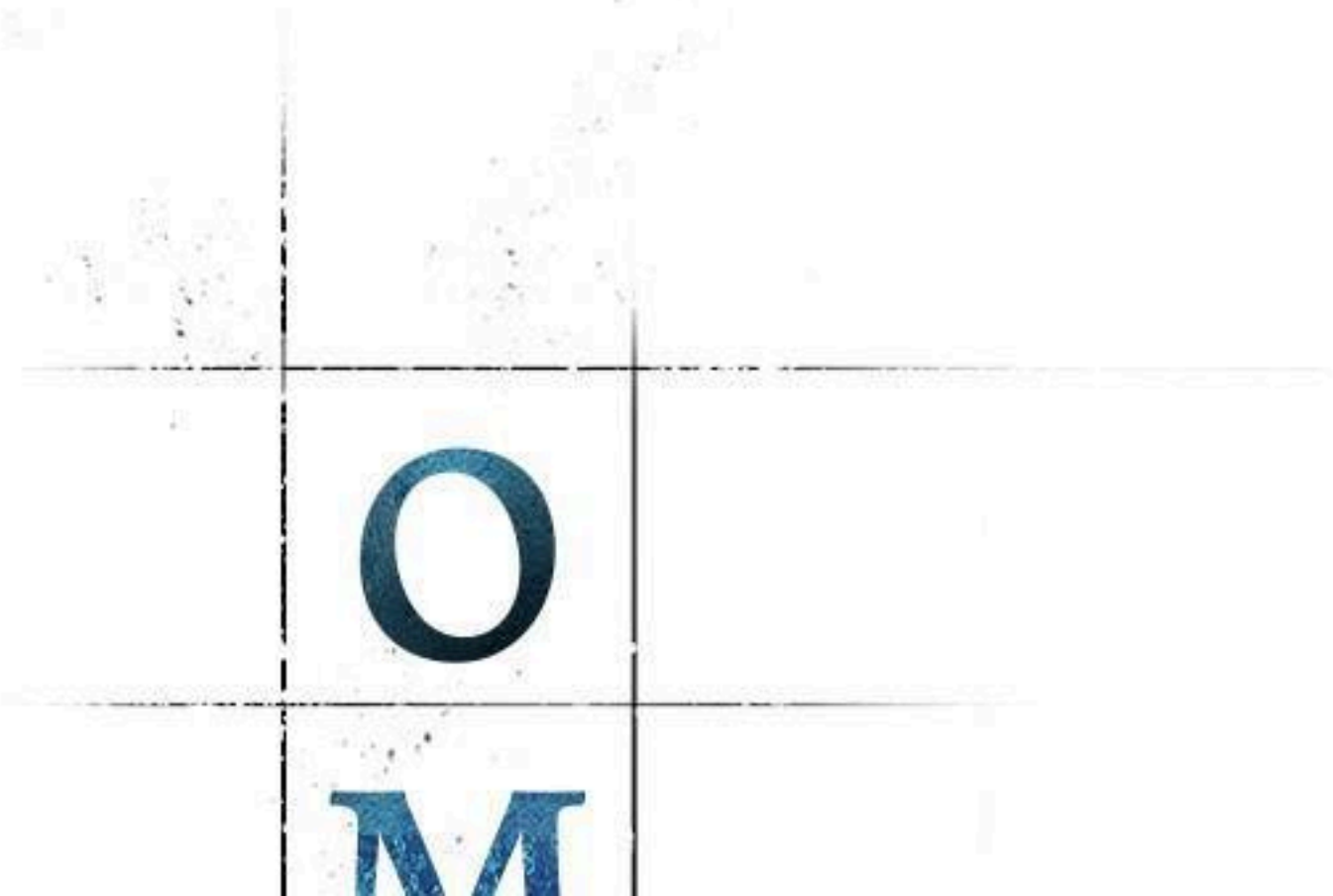
GRRRR



HAVE FUN
IN HELL,
NAMWOON.

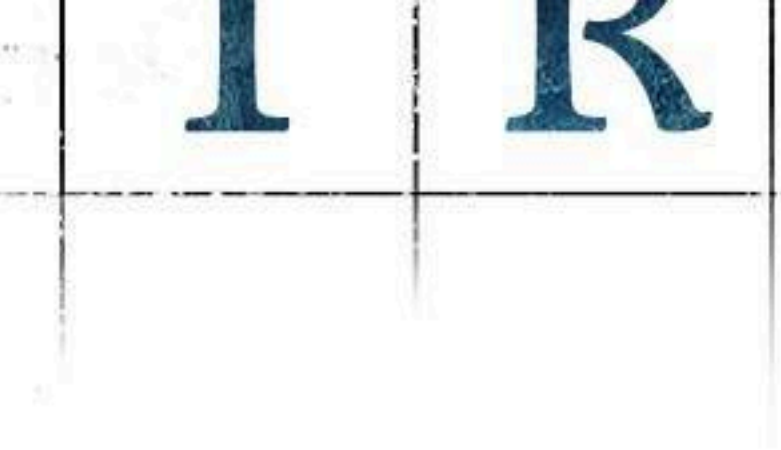
DING

[THE HIDDEN SCENARIO HAS BEEN UPDATED.]



READE

MISSION



Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original Story by sing N song

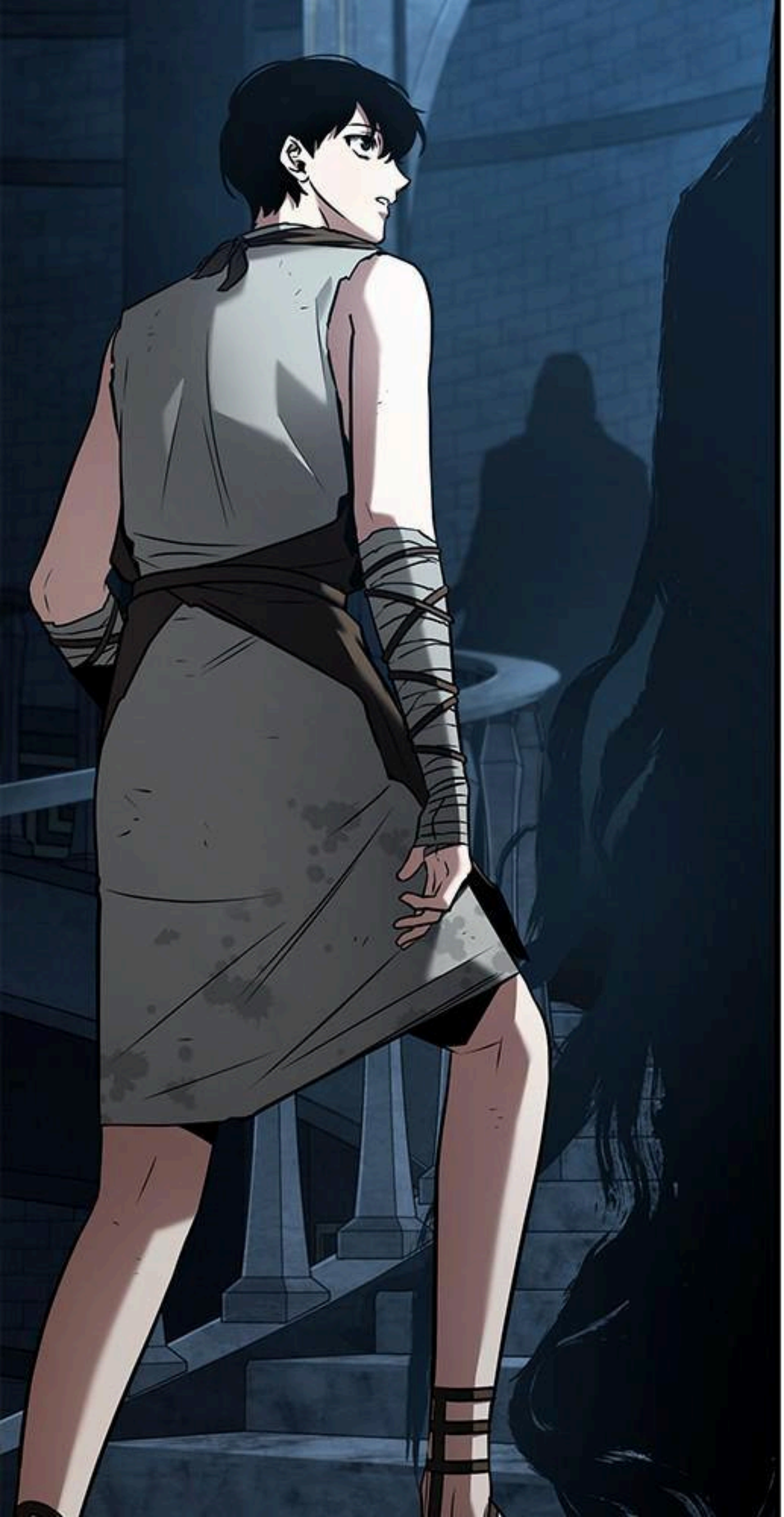
Episode 114

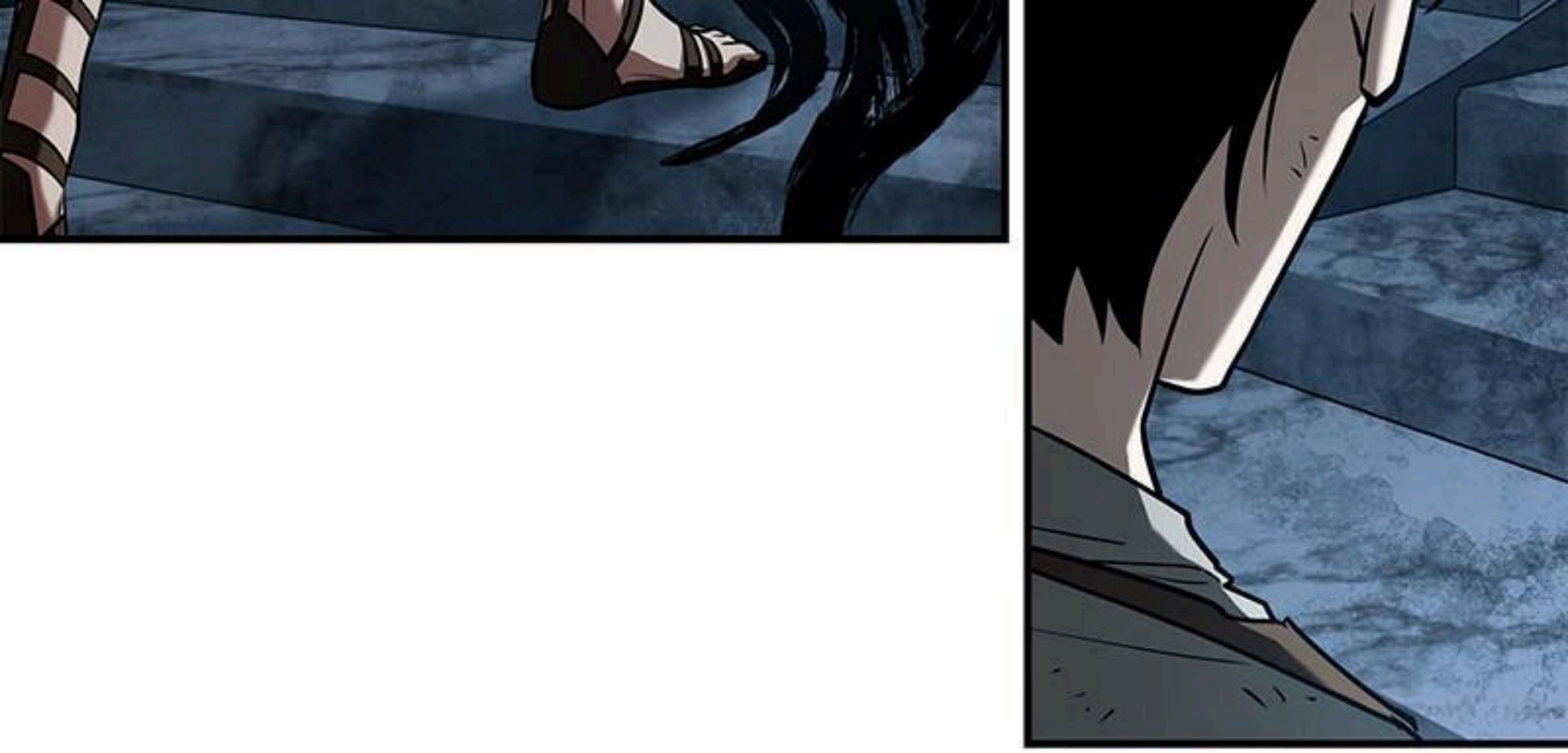
Chapter 22

Three Promises

Part 7

STEP



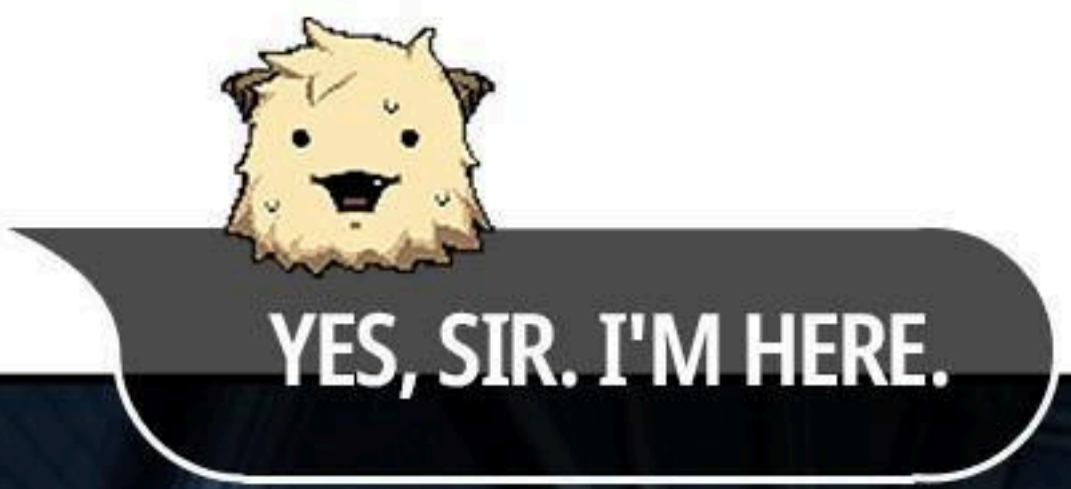


YOU'LL
GET LOST IF
YOU'RE NOT
CAREFUL.

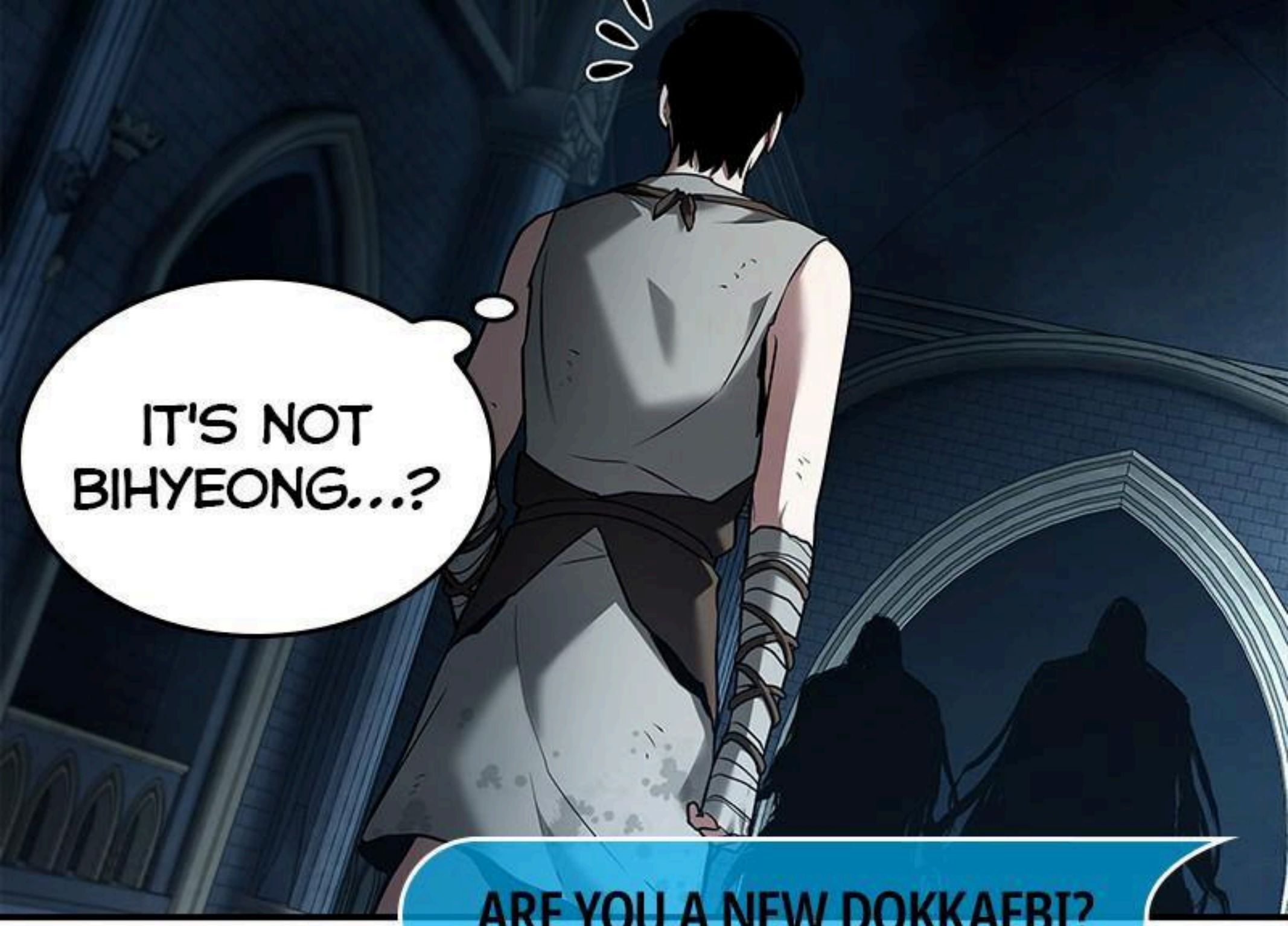
HEY, ARE YOU THERE?

YES, I'M ON MY WAY.

I KNOW YOU'RE THERE.



YES, SIR. I'M HERE.



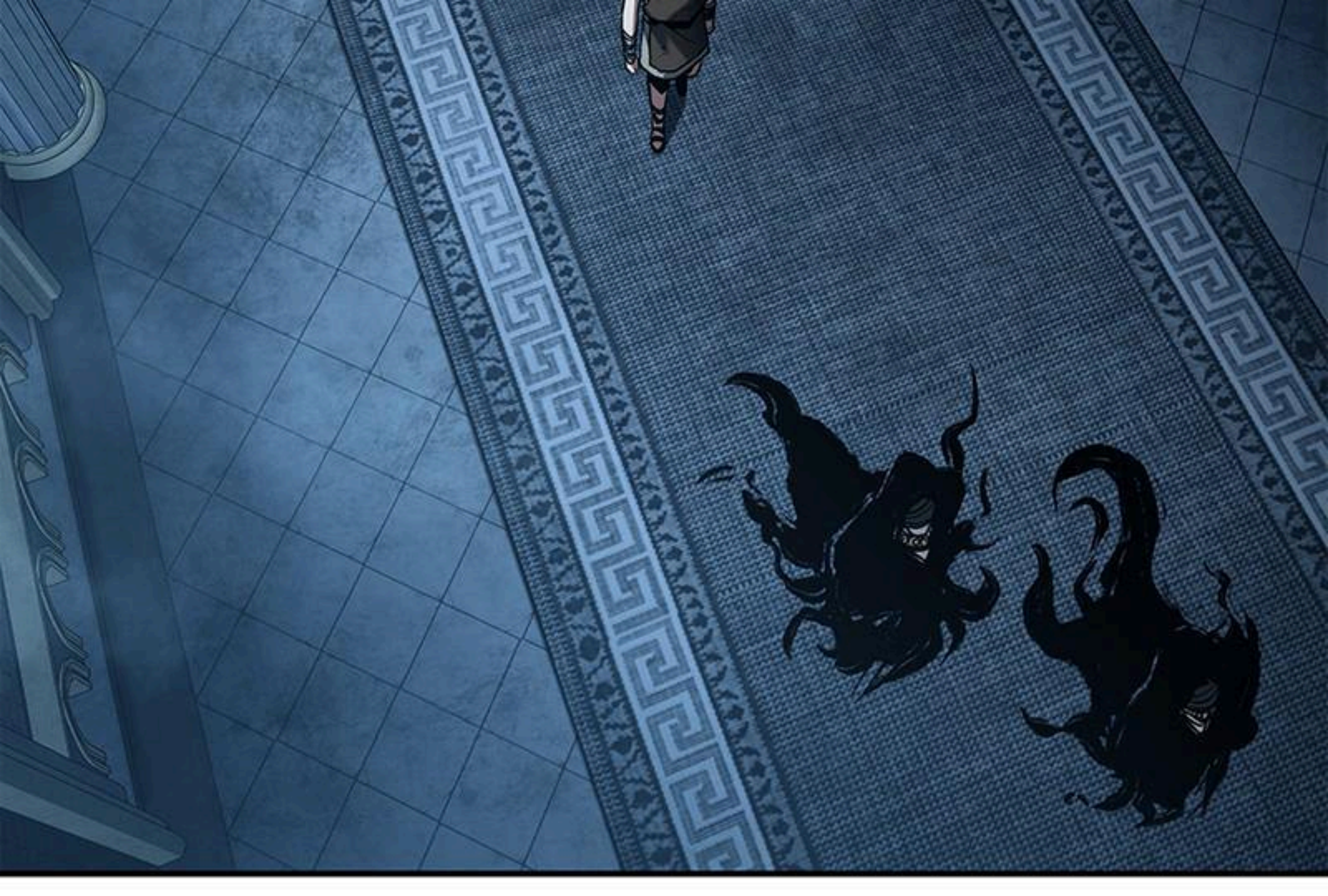
HELLO, SIR. I'M *YEONGGI*, A LOW-GRADE DOKKAEBI. BIHYEONG IS OFF TENDING TO BUSINESS AT THE ADMINISTRATION, SO I'M HERE TO FILL IN.

WELL? AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO YOUR JOB?

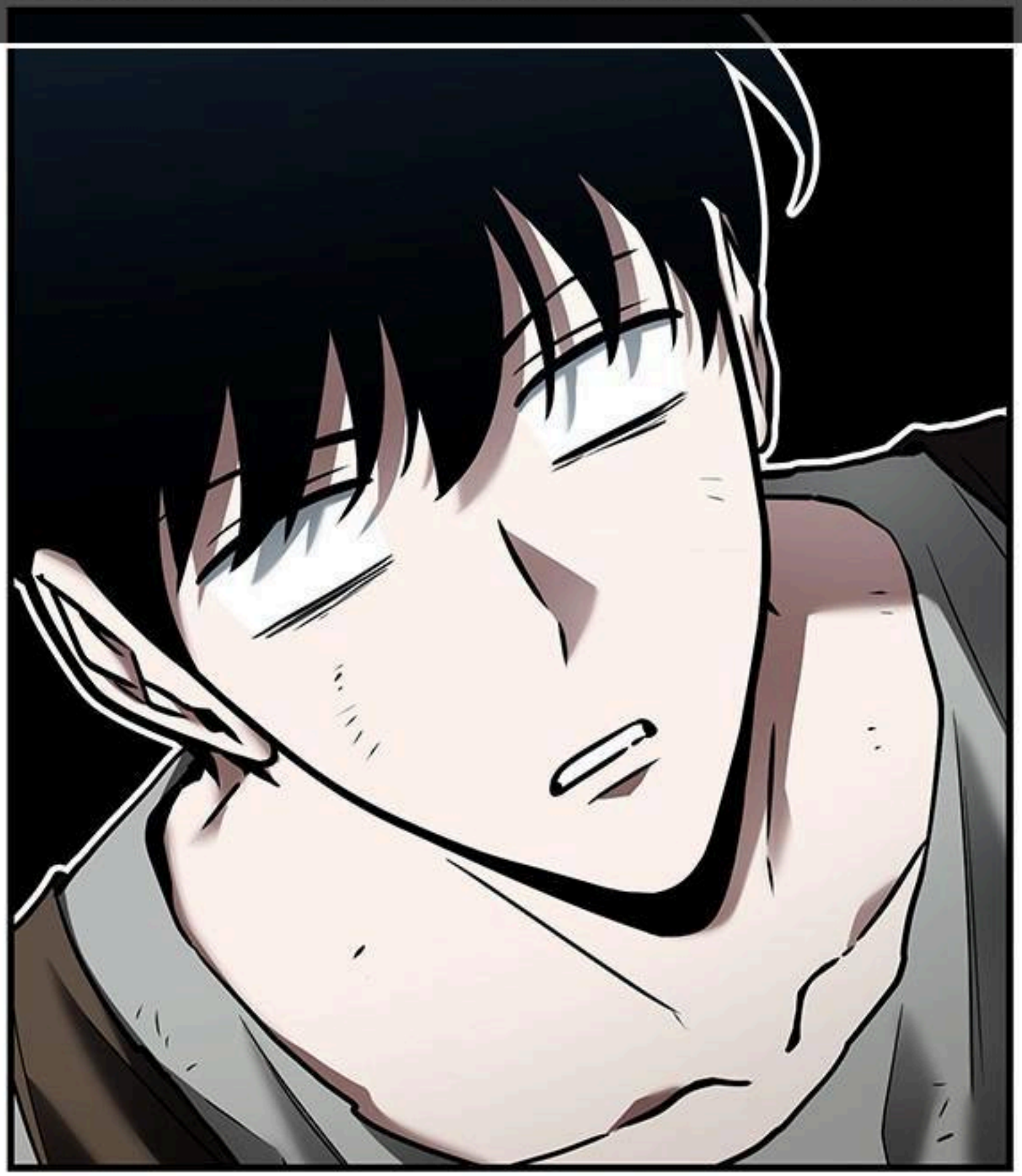
I'M SORRY, SIR?

THE SCENARIO'S BEEN UPDATED. WHY AREN'T YOU KEEPING ME UPDATED?

OH, TH-THAT'S...!



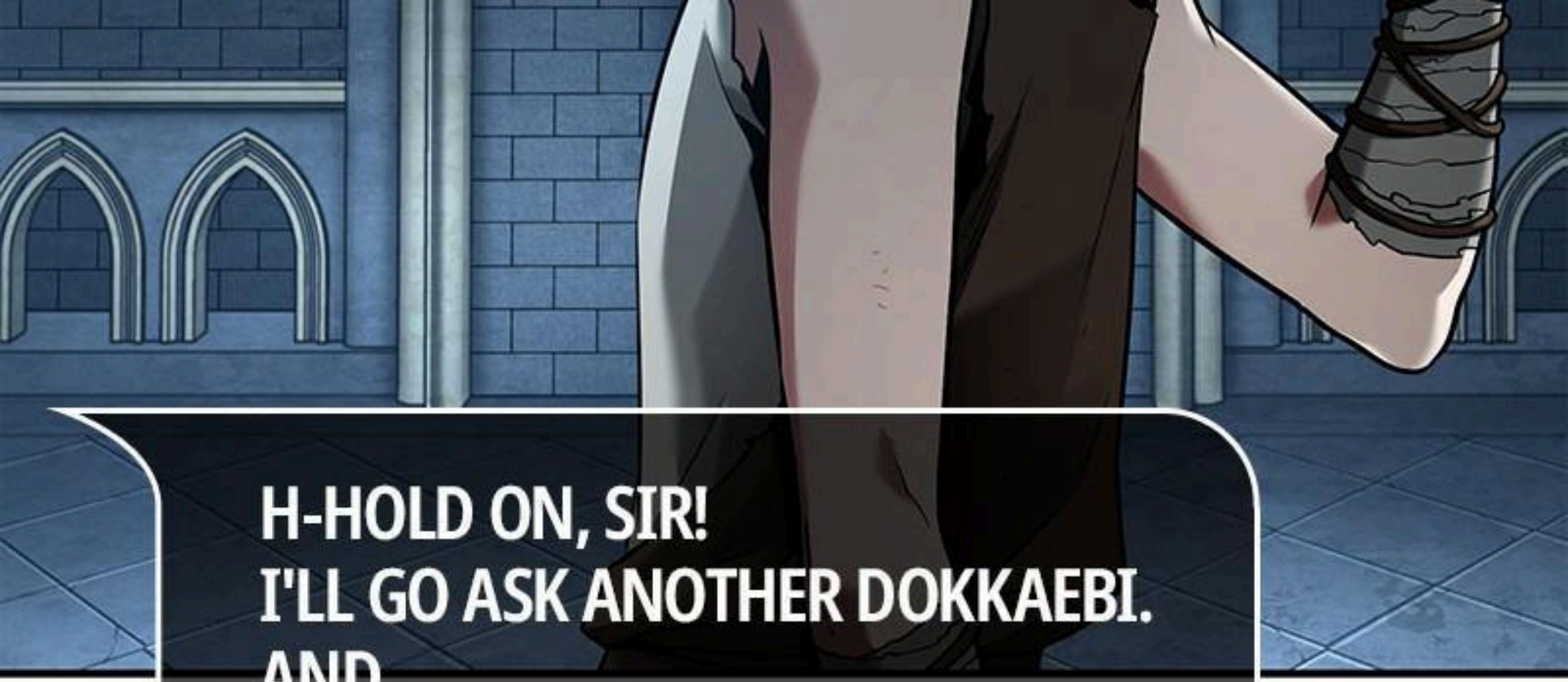
SIR... HOW DO I UPDATE A SCENARIO?



WHAT KIND OF A DOKKAEBI ASKS AN INCARNATION THAT?

W-WELL, BIHYEONG TOLD ME TO ASK YOU IF I COME ACROSS ANYTHING I DON'T KNOW...

JUST WHAT HAS BIHYEONG GOTTEN ME INTO?



AND, WHAT?

I'M SORRY TO ASK YOU, BUT COULD I DISPLAY YOUR *MESSAGE BACKLOG*? THIS IS MY FIRST TIME WORKING A DISPATCH JOB...

FUCK

[CONSTELLATION, GOD OF ALCOHOL AND ECSTASY, IS OVERJOYED BY YOUR SUFFERING.]

[CONSTELLATION, PRISONER OF THE GOLDEN HEADBAND, IS EXCITED BY YOUR ADVENTURE.]

[CONSTELLATION, OF FIRE, IS

[CONSTELLATION, SECRETIVE PLOTTER, IS CURIOUS TO FIND HOW YOU'LL ESCAPE.]

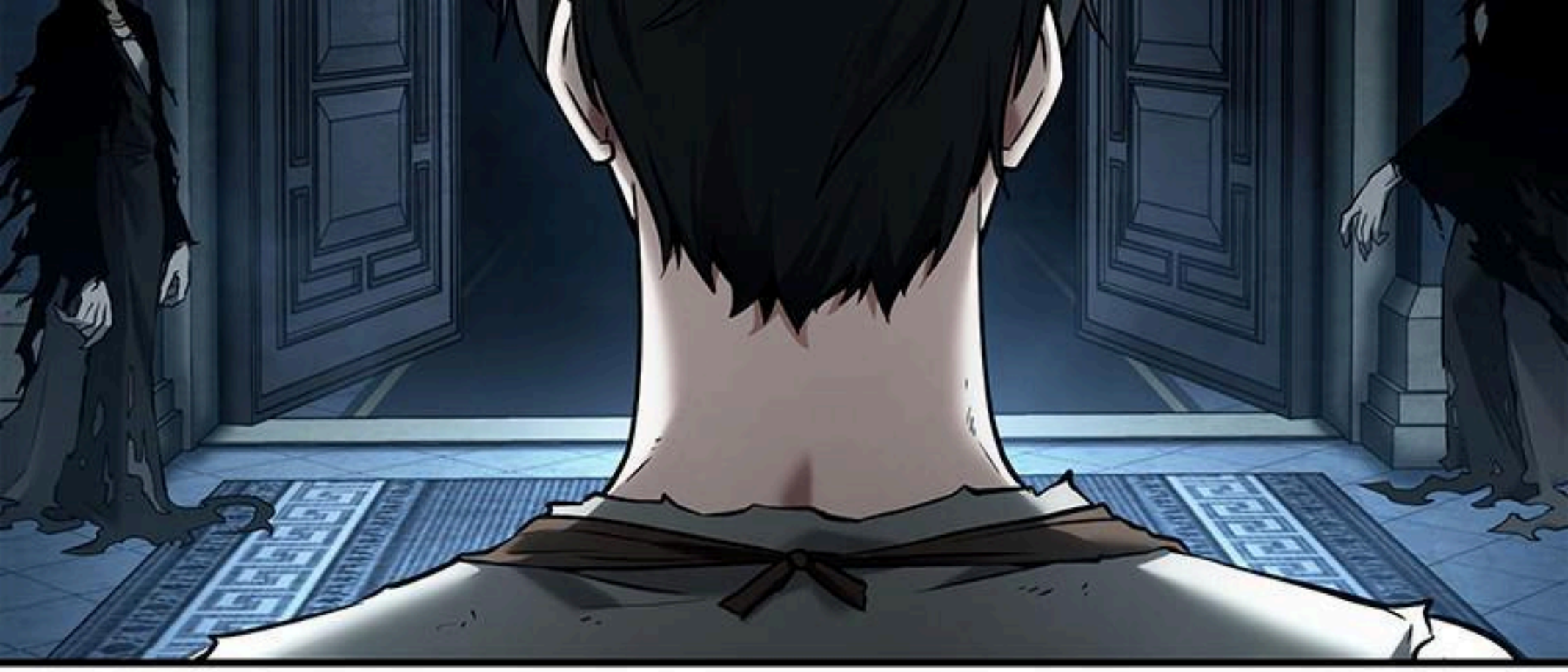
[YOU HAVE BEEN GIFTED 12,000 COINS.]

12,000 COINS
JUST FOR
SHOWING THEM
HADES' PALACE?

WELL, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
I'M BASICALLY BROADCASTING PRIVATE PROPERTY WHERE CAMERAS AREN'T ALLOWED.

WE'RE HERE.

CREAK



STEP

SPARK

ZAAK

INTERESTING...

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE SOMEONE SET FOOT IN HERE ALIVE.

AND YOU'VE BROUGHT SOME UNWANTED GUESTS WITH YOU.

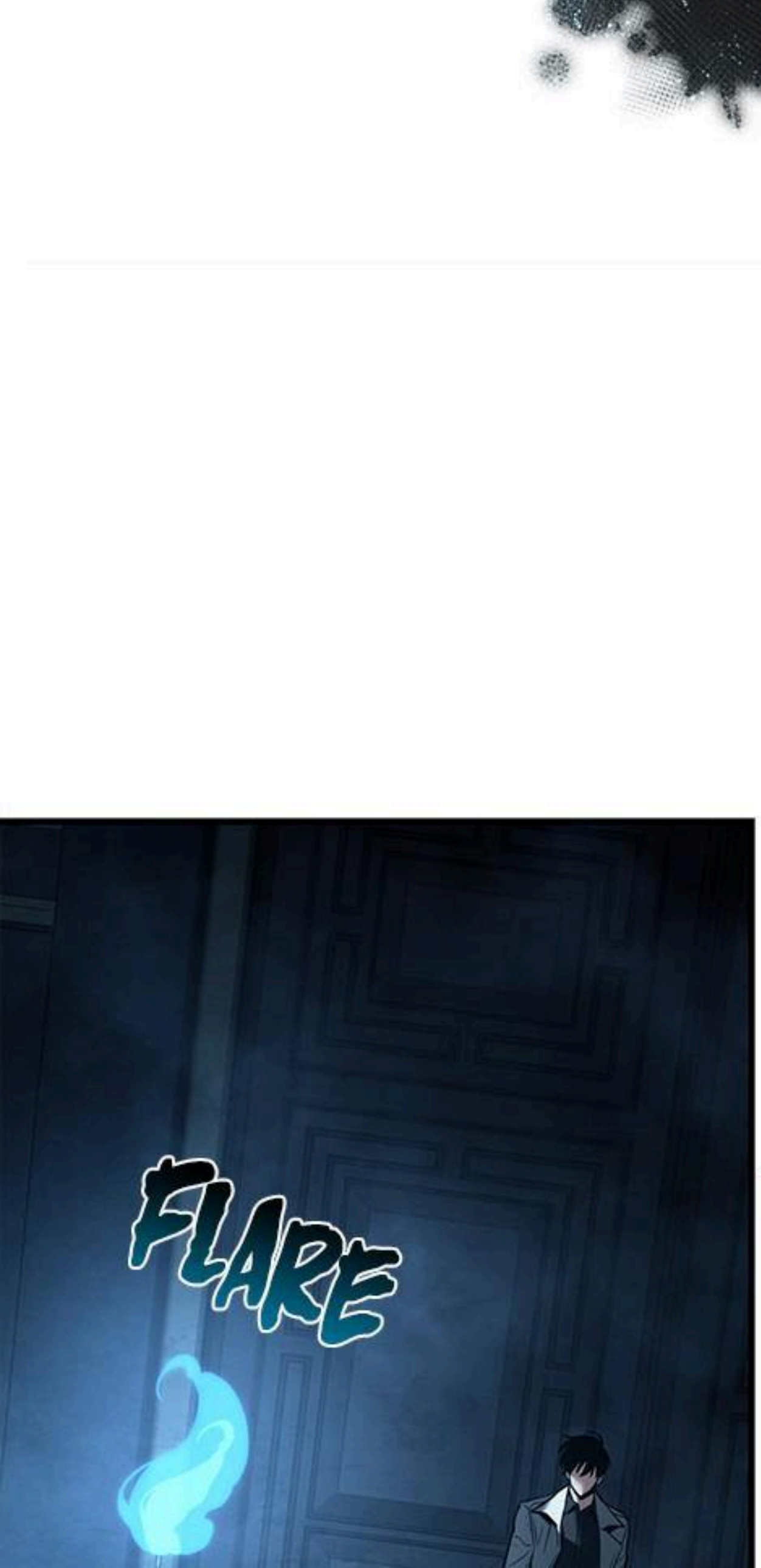
A BANQUET HALL...? I CAN'T SEE BECAUSE IT'S TOO DARK.

BUT SINCE WE'RE IN HADES' PALACE AND A WOMAN IS SPEAKING TO ME FROM WHERE THE LADY OF THE HOUSE IS SUPPOSED TO BE SEATED, SO...

CREAK

SLAM

TODAY'S GOING TO BE A SPECIAL DAY.


FLARE

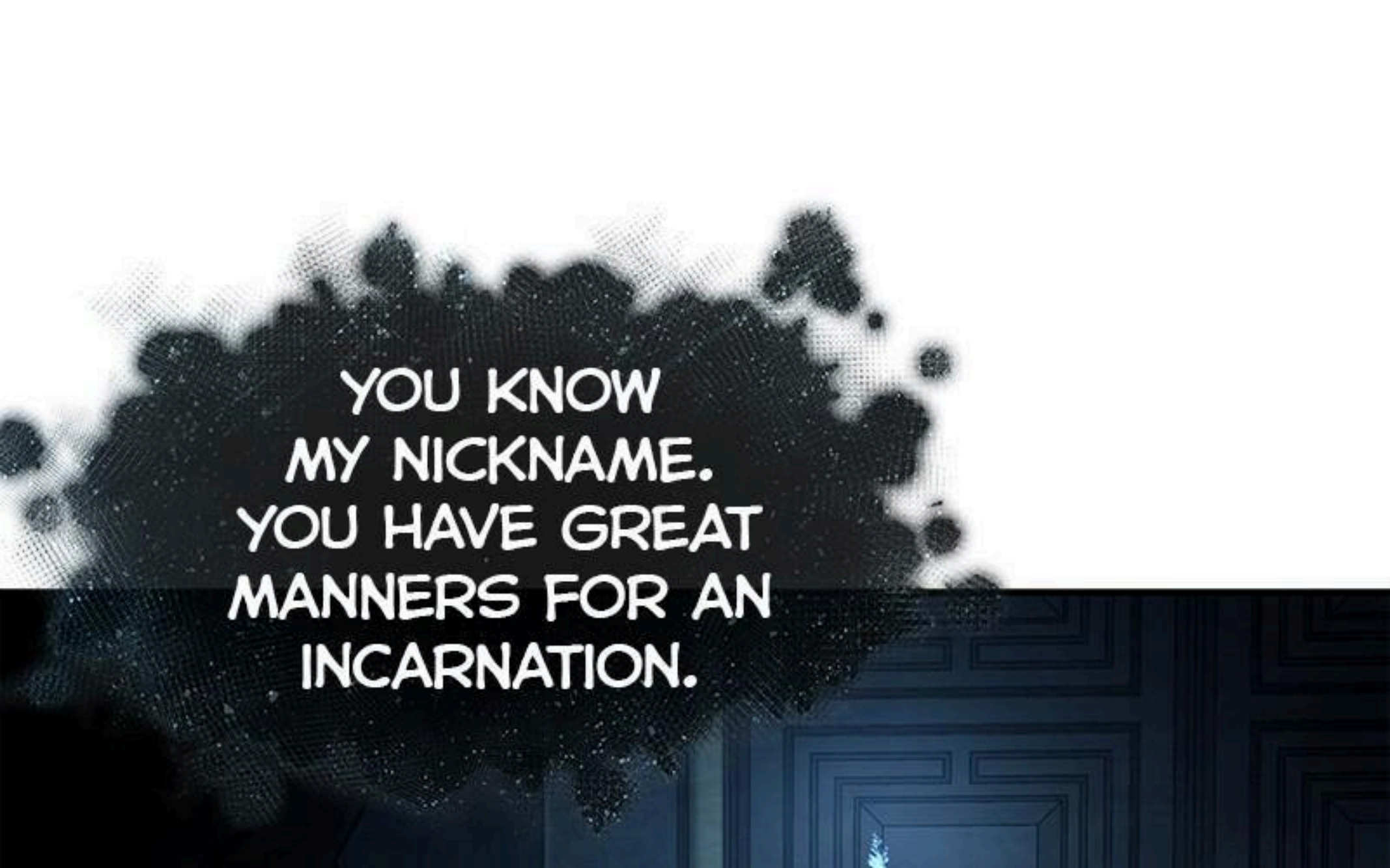
IT IS AN HONOR,

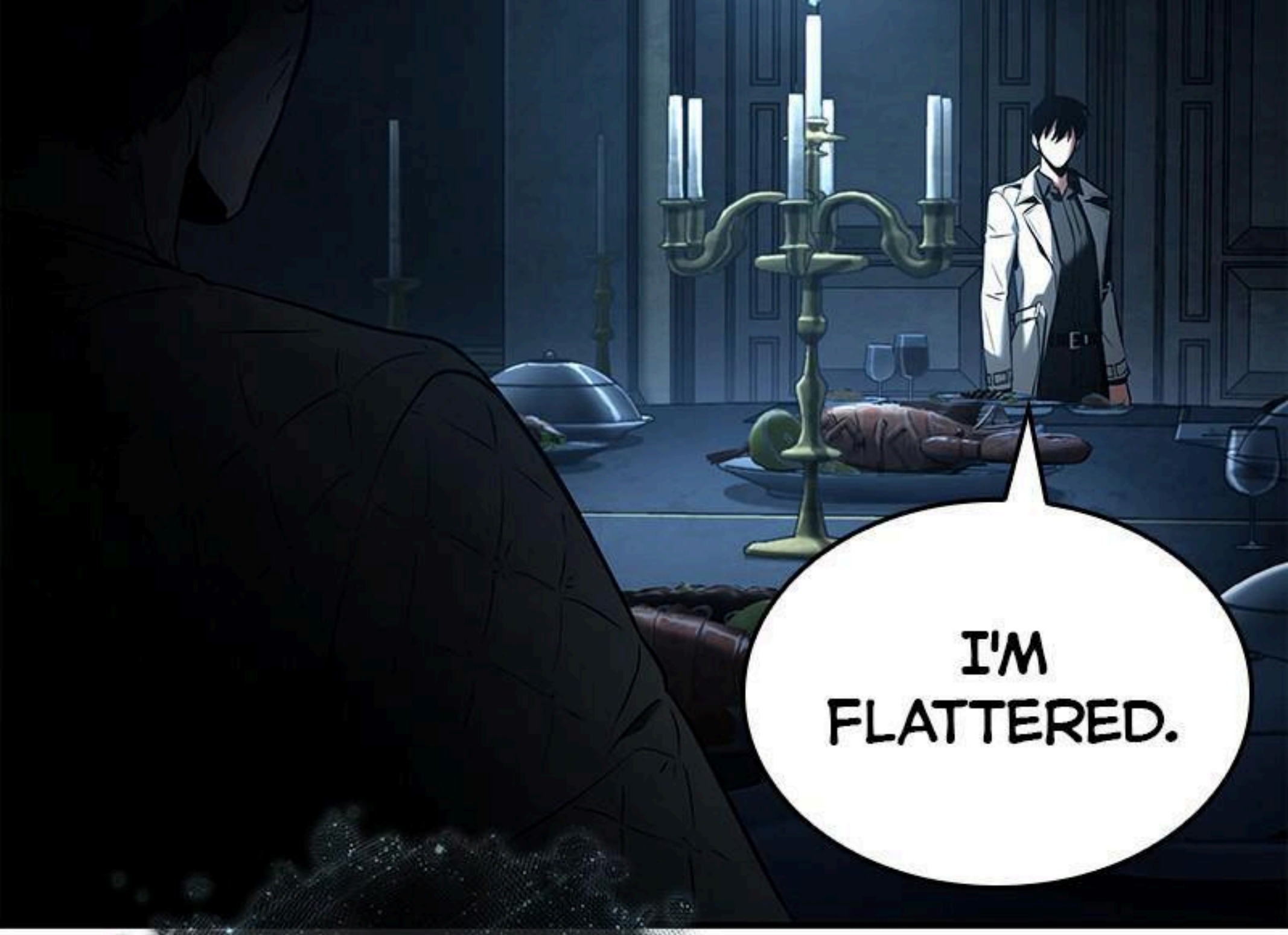
QUEEN OF THE DARKEST SPRING.

QUEEN OF THE DARKEST SPRING.

SHE IS THE WIFE OF HADES AND THE QUEEN OF THE UNDERWORLD...

...PERSEPHONE.


YOU KNOW
MY NICKNAME.
YOU HAVE GREAT
MANNERS FOR AN
INCARNATION.


I'M FLATTERED.
WHAT'S MORE INTERESTING IS...

...YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE SHAKEN DESPITE HEARING MY TRUE VOICE.

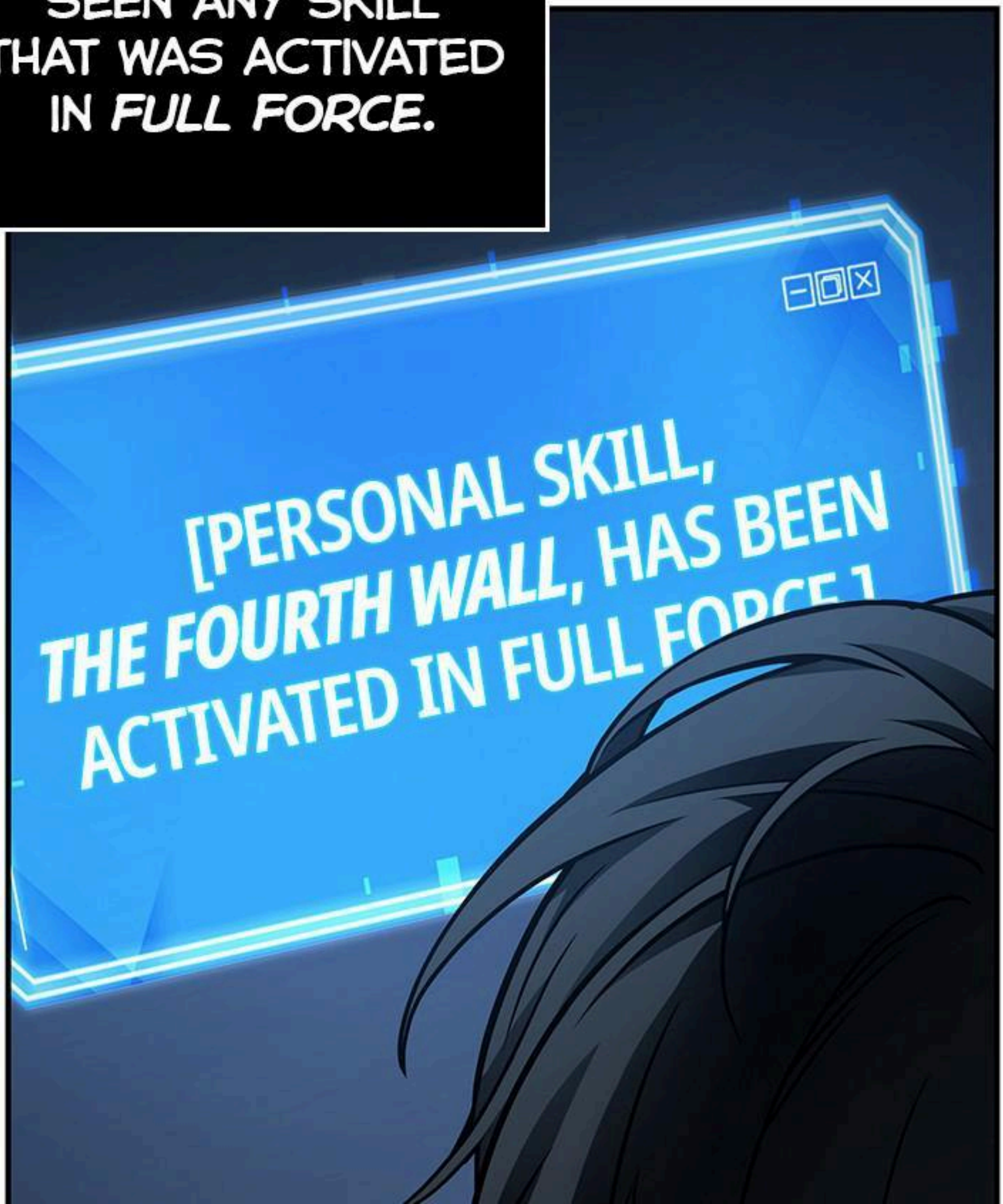
COME TO THINK

OF IT, I DON'T FEEL ANYTHING.

PERSEPHONE IS A CONSTELLATION THAT IS AT LEAST ABOVE THE RANK OF A FABLE.

AND TO THINK THAT JUST A FEW DAYS AGO, I HAD TROUBLE HEARING YUSIN KIM'S VOICE...

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY SKILL THAT WAS ACTIVATED IN *FULL FORCE*.



MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M MEETING A BEING ON A WHOLE ANOTHER LEVEL...

THAT MY SUBCONSCIOUS IS PERCEIVING THIS EXPERIENCE AS *UNREAL*.

SIT,
INCARNATION
DOKJA KIM.

MAY I ASK
YOU A QUESTION,

IF YOU DON'T MIND?

GO ON.

IS THAT YOUR TRUE FORM?

OF COURSE, NOT. THIS IS MY SYMBOLIC FORM.

A MERE HUMAN SUCH AS YOURSELF WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND MY TRUE FORM.

SUCH AN AWFUL HABIT...

PERHAPS YOU'RE NOT INTO OLDER WOMEN?

SHE HAS ASSUMED THE FORM...

...OF THE OLD LADY I COULDN'T SAVE IN THE FIRST SCENARIO.

IF I'M MAKING YOU
UNCOMFORTABLE,
I CAN ASSUME A
DIFFERENT FORM.

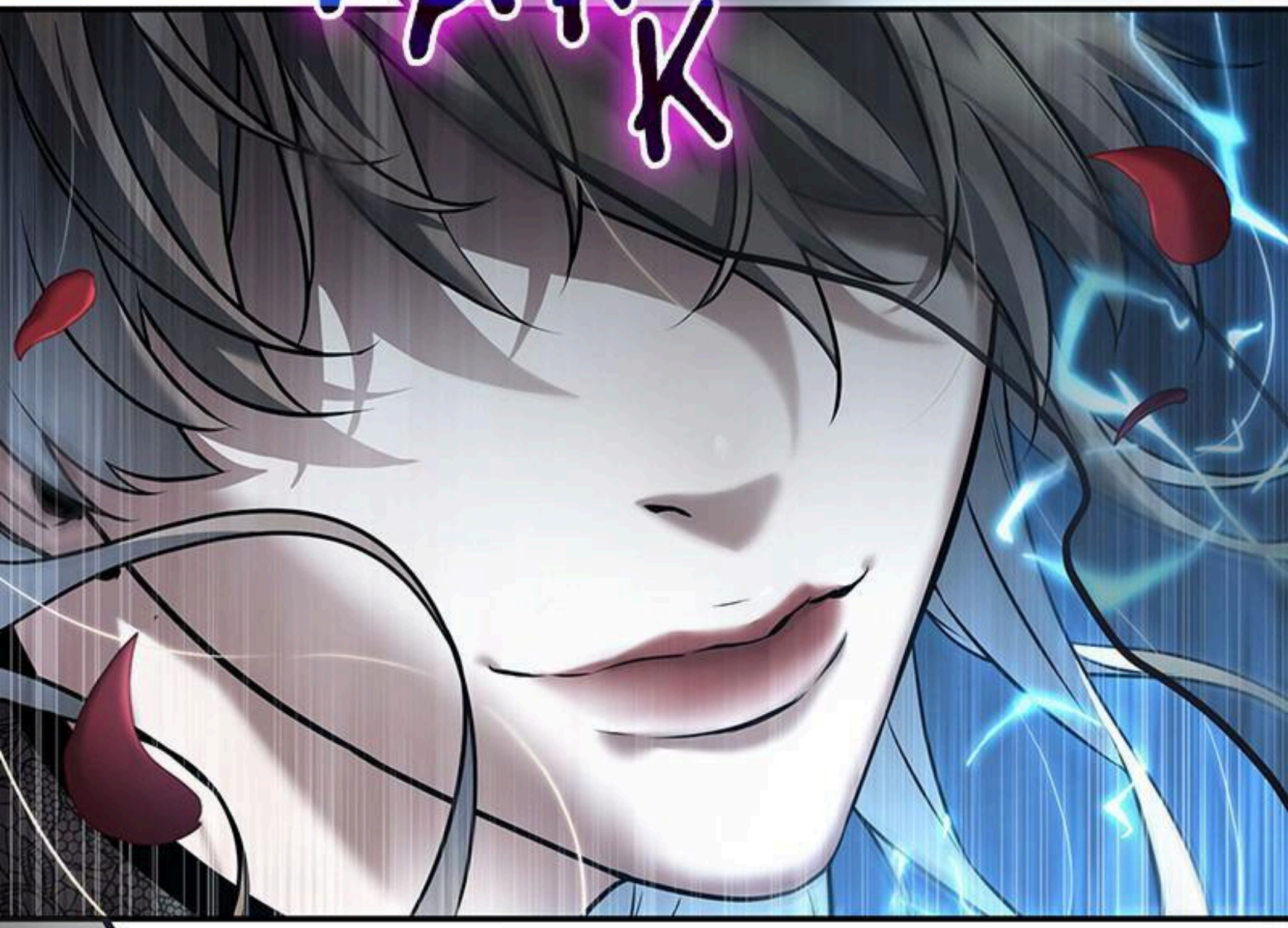
SPARK SPARK SPARK

SPARK

SPARK

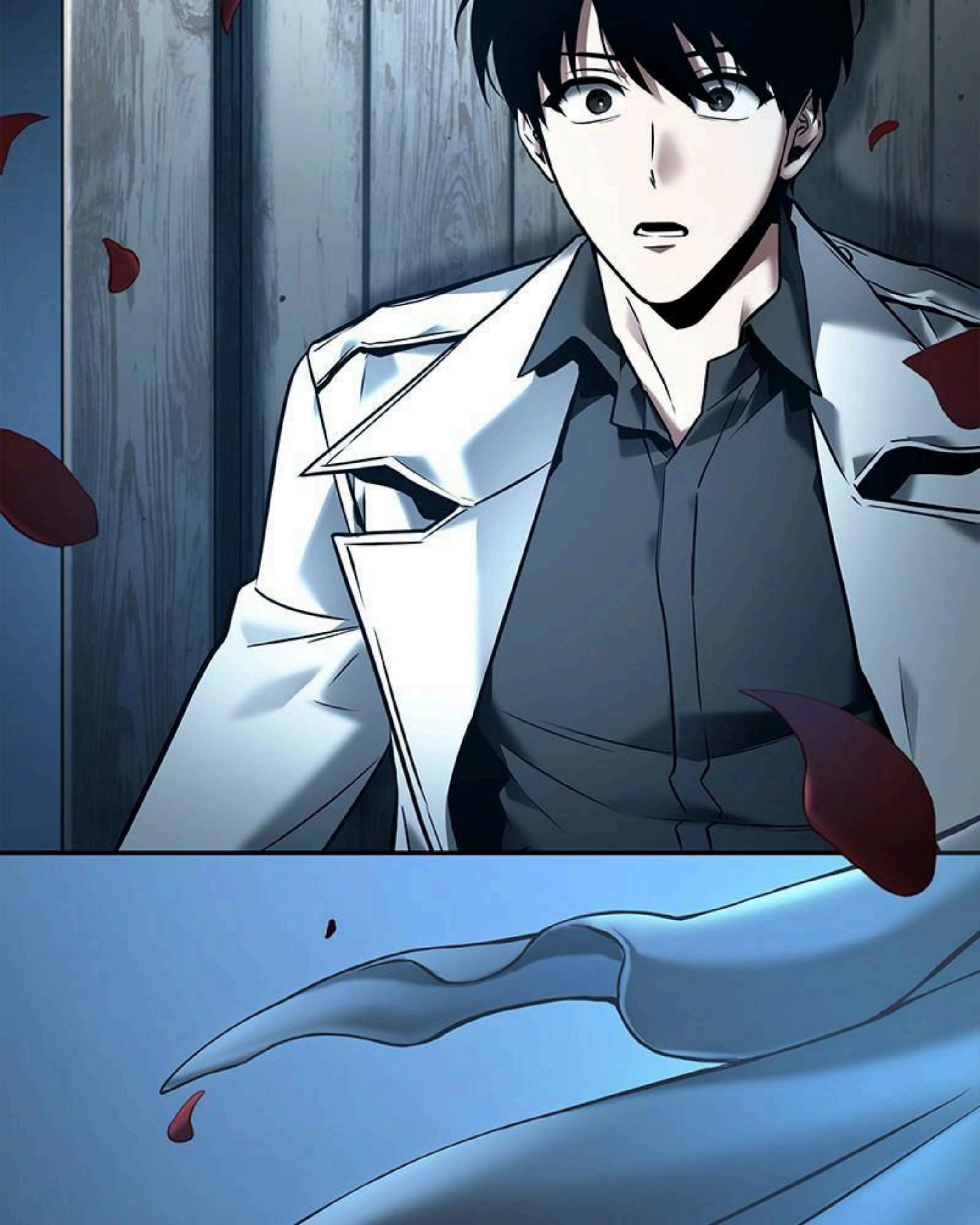
SPARK

DARK



FLASH

PAK



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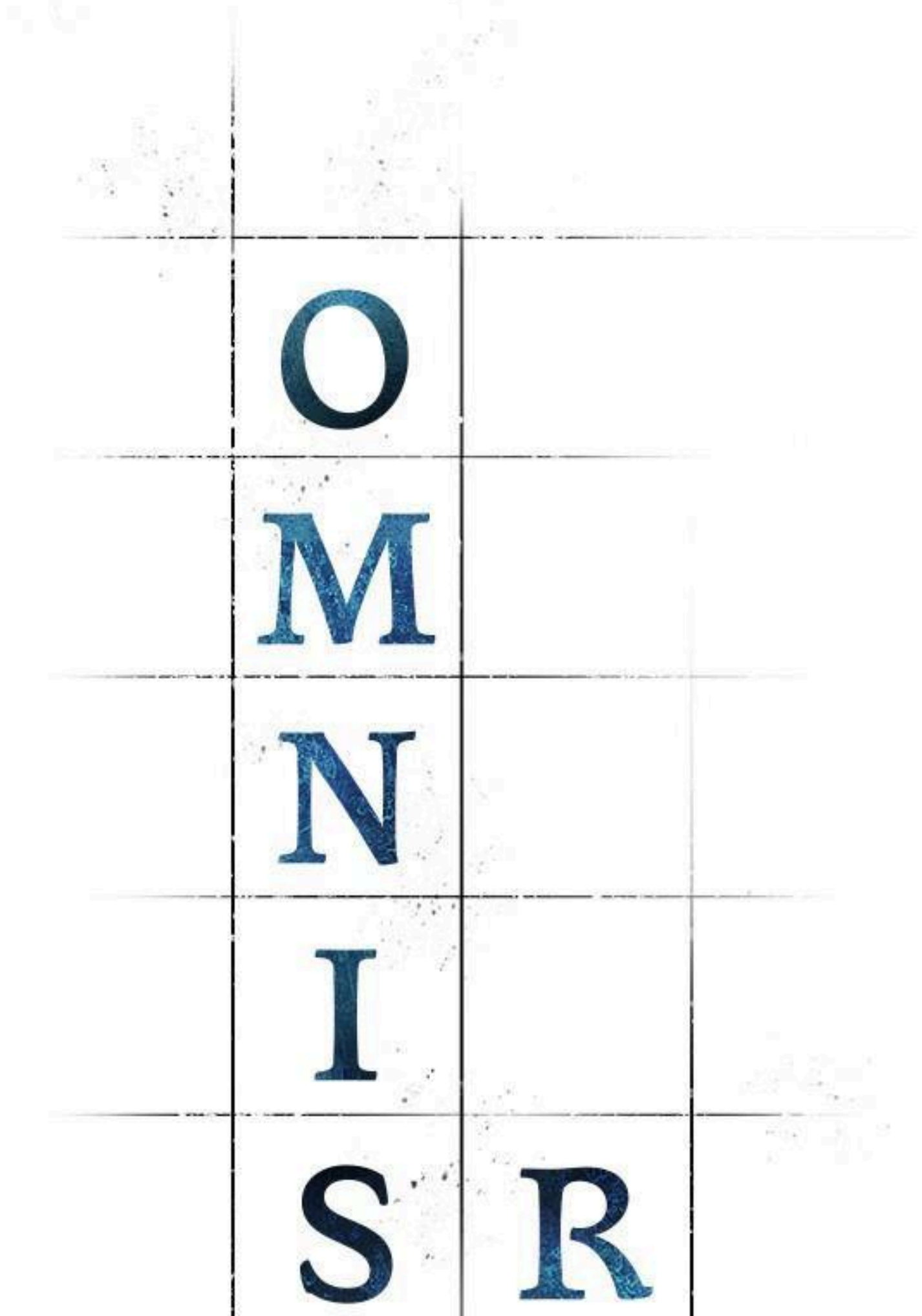
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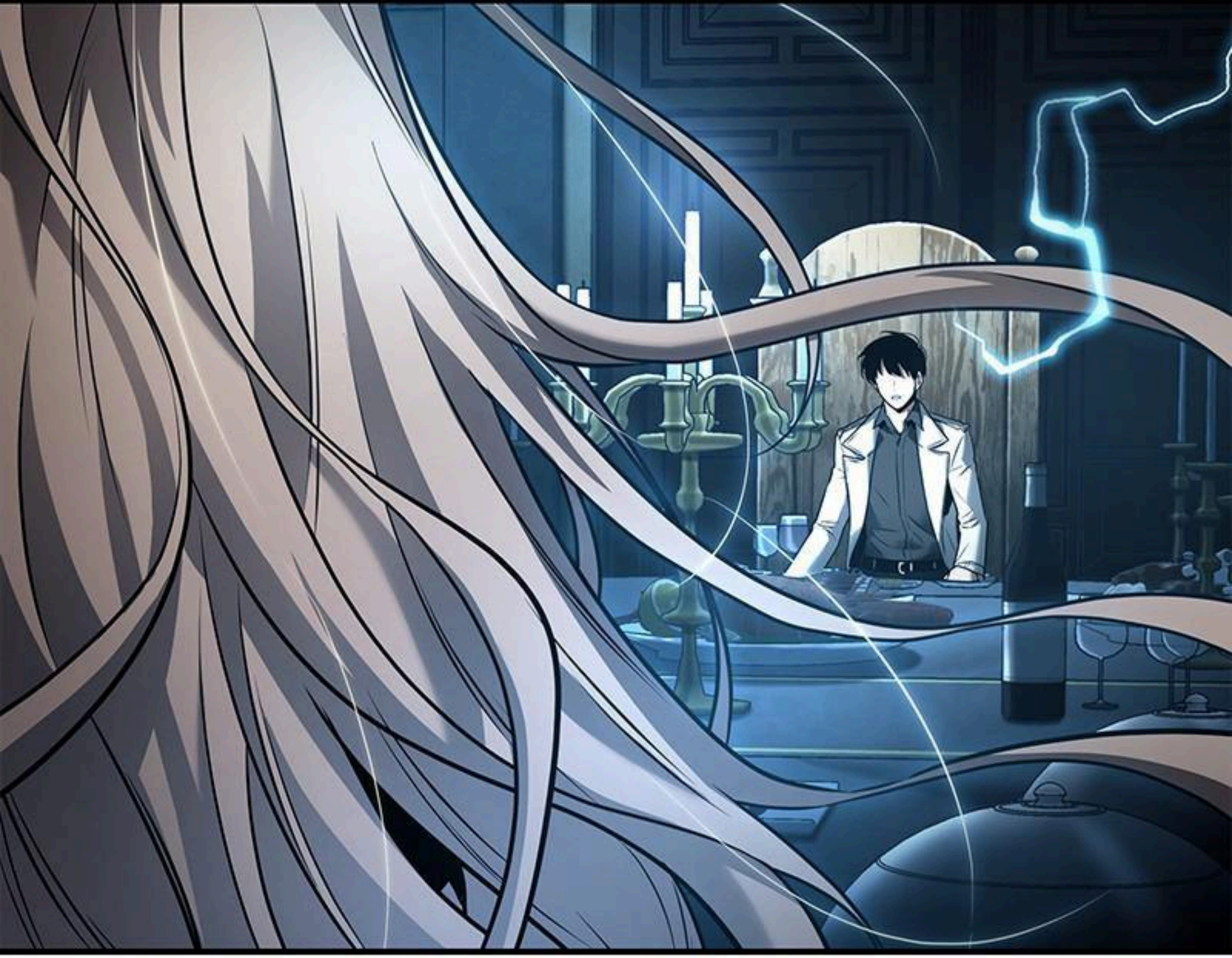
Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original Story by sing N song

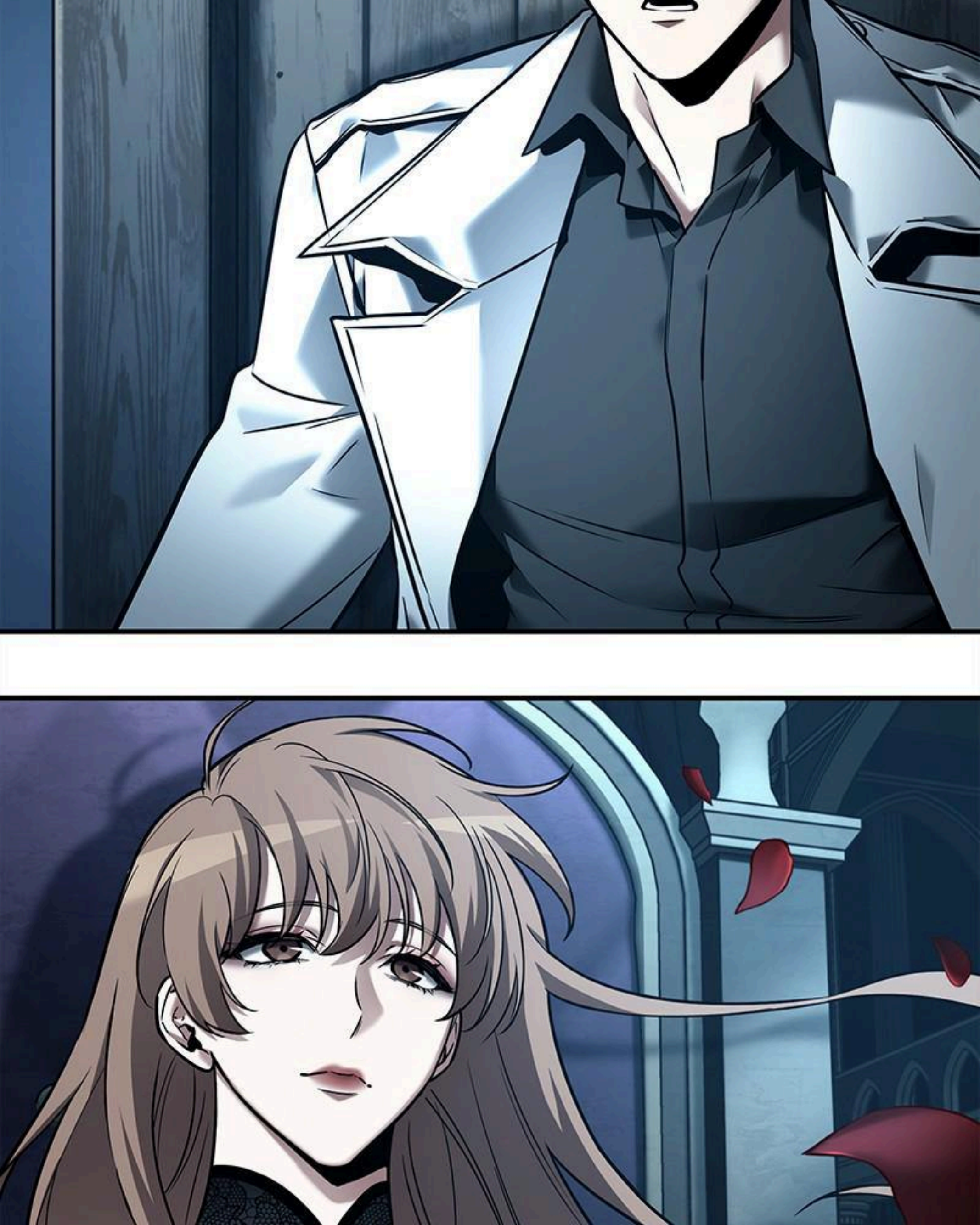
Episode 115

Chapter 22

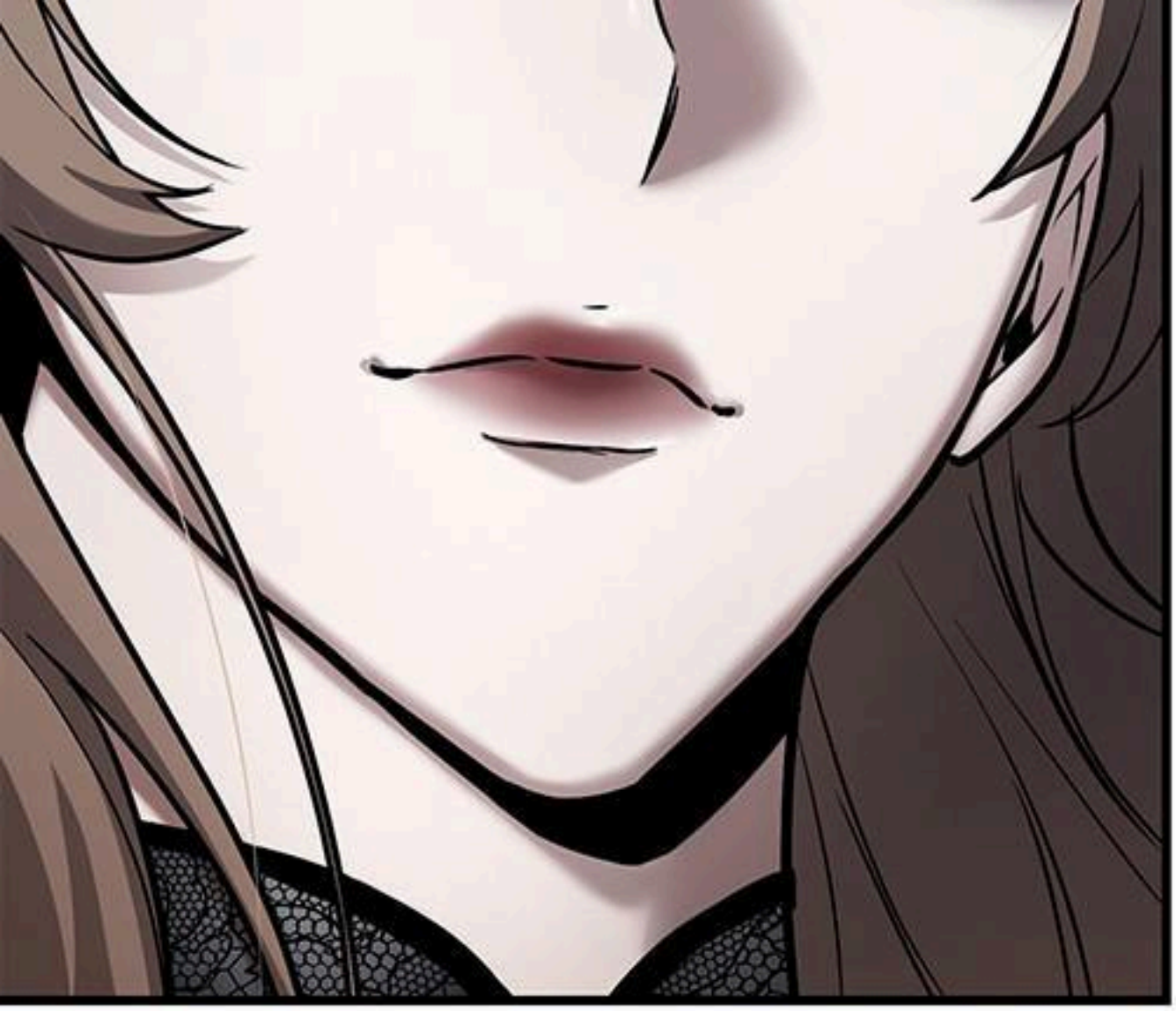
Three Promises

Part 8





SMILE

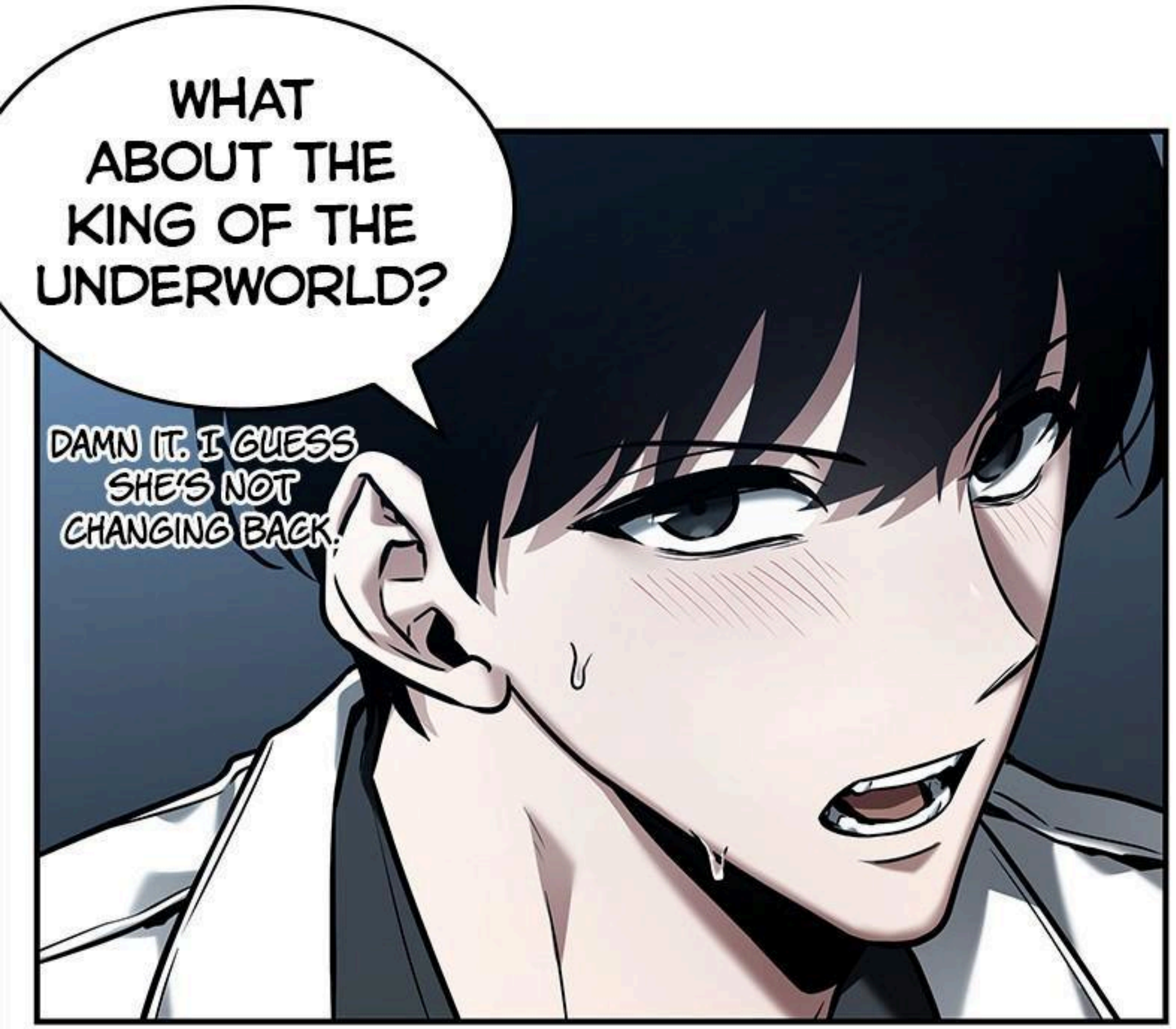


THE OLD LADY IS FINE.

DID SHE HAVE TO TURN INTO SANGAH WEARING *THAT*?

TURN

SINCE WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, LET'S GET RIGHT DOWN TO BUSINESS.


WHAT ABOUT THE KING OF THE UNDERWORLD?
DAMN IT. I GUESS SHE'S NOT CHANGING BACK.

THE KING IS DISPLEASED WITH YOUR SUDDEN VISIT.

SO, I THINK IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU JUST TALKED TO ME TODAY.

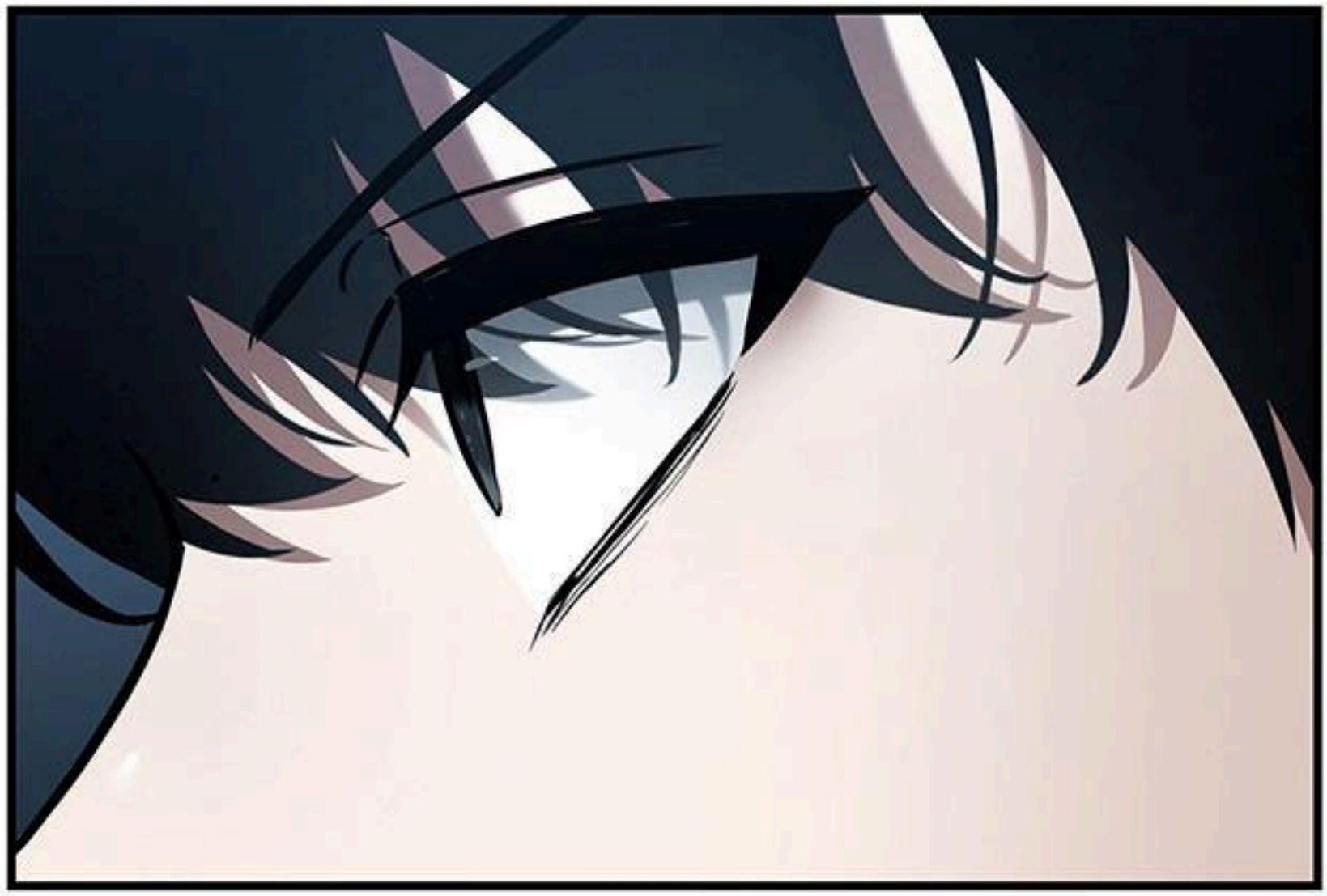
WELL, THERE'S NO WAY ONE OF THE MAJOR THREE GODS OF OLYMPUS WOULD TALK TO SOME INCARNATION.

I GUESS THIS WILL HAVE TO DO.

DIONYSUS TOLD ME

DIONYSUS TOLD ME THE GIST OF IT...

...BUT IT WOULDN'T HURT TO HEAR WHAT YOU WANT IN YOUR OWN WORDS.



I WANT TO RETRIEVE SOMEONE'S SOUL.

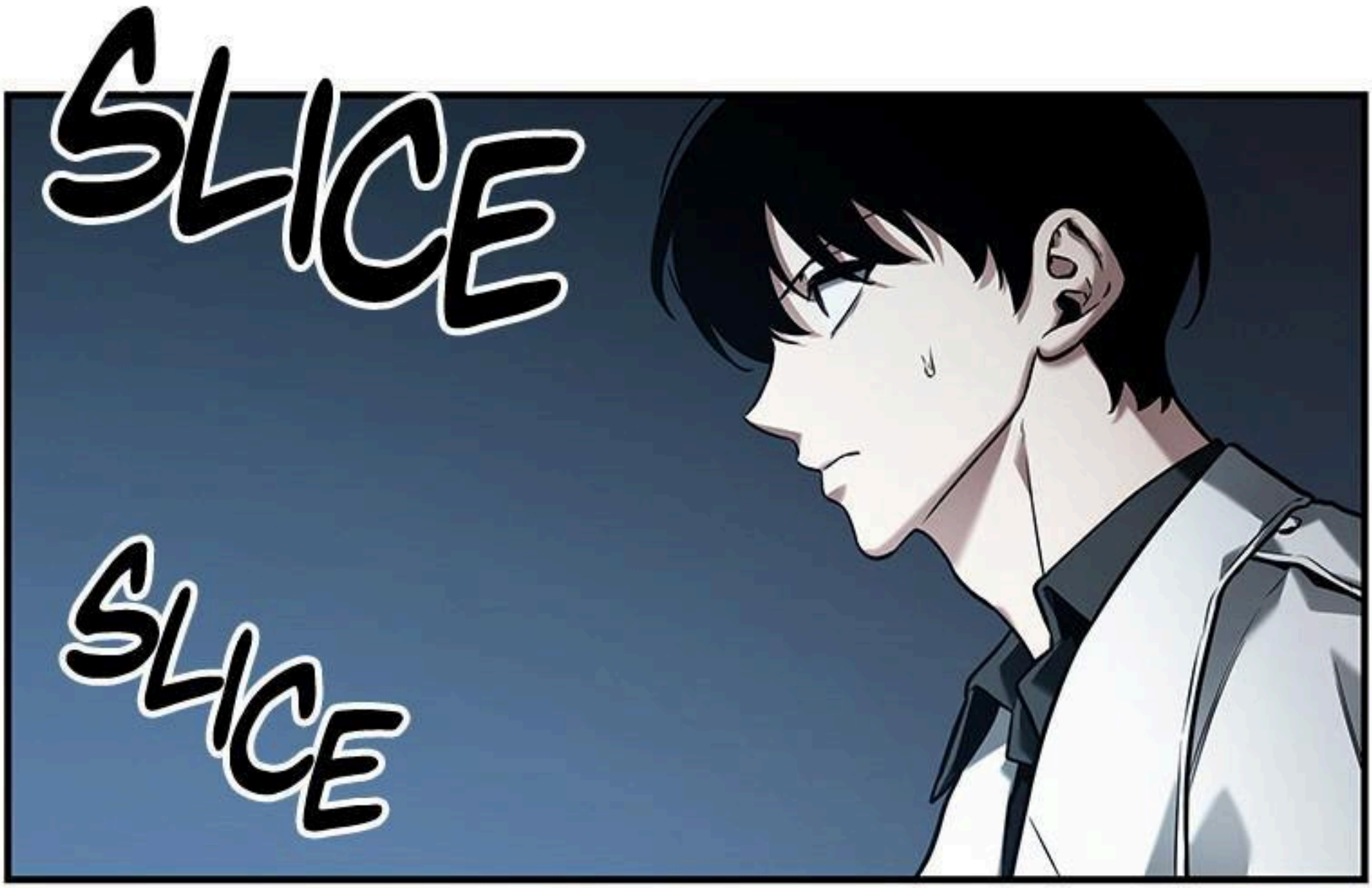
I DON'T KNOW
IF YOU'VE HEARD,
BUT I AM READY
TO MAKE A DEAL.

A SOUL...

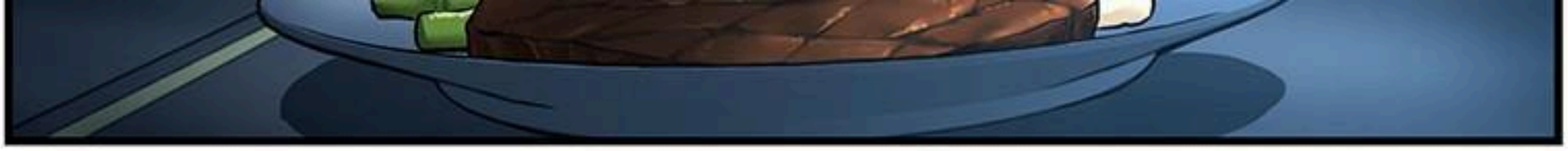
THIS REMINDS
ME OF THE PAST.

CLANK

SLICE


SLICE
SLICE

SLICE



SLICE
SLICE

SOULS DON'T EXIST IN THIS WORLD.

TWITCH

THAT WOULD MAKE PLATO AND ARISTOTLE TURN IN THEIR GRAVES.

HOW CAN A GOD SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

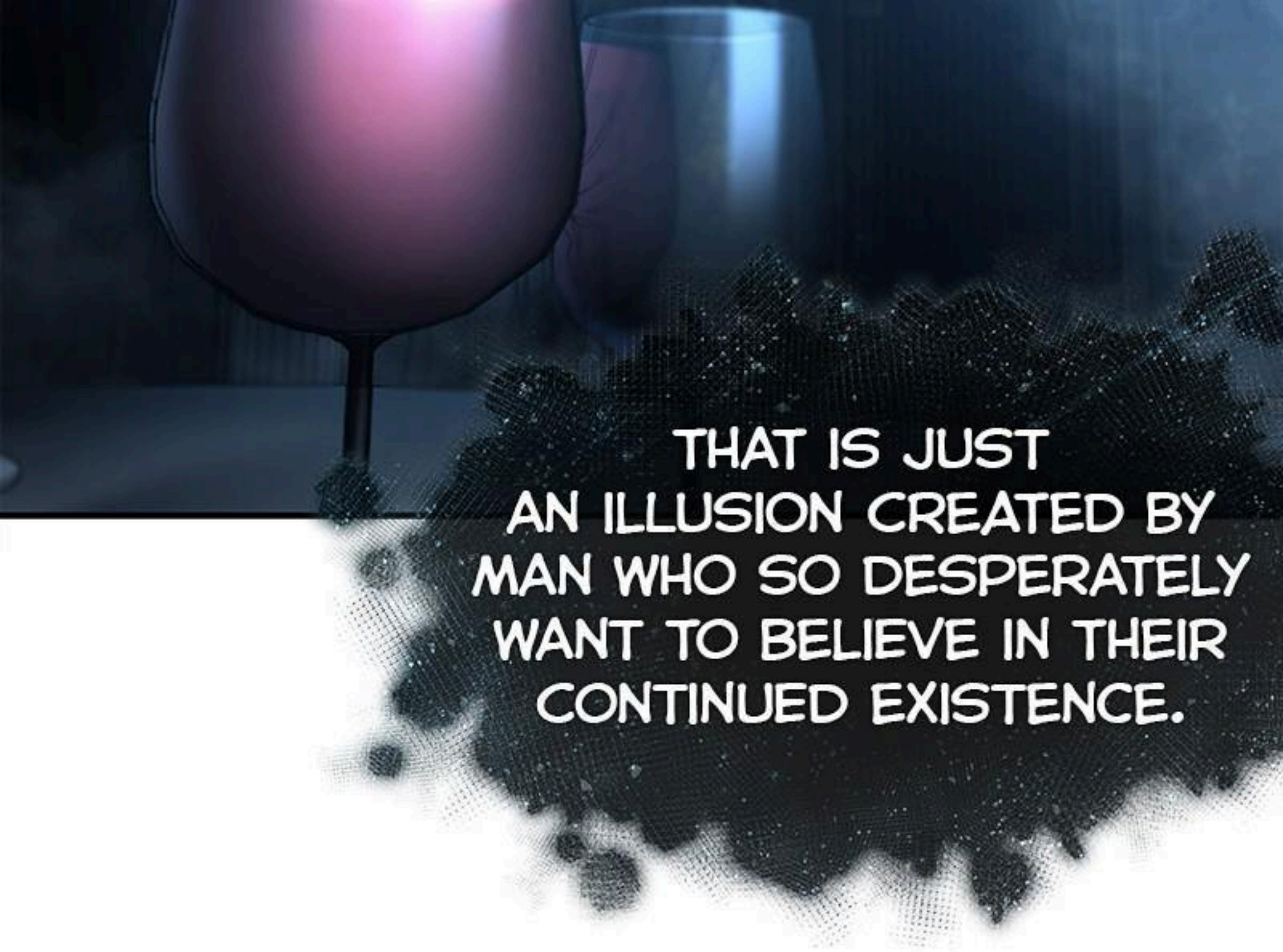
THOSE TWO WOULDN'T BE IN THEIR GRAVES AS THEY BECAME CONSTELLATIONS.

I'M NOT HERE TO EXCHANGE JOKES.

NEITHER
AM I.

INCARNATION
DOKJA KIM.

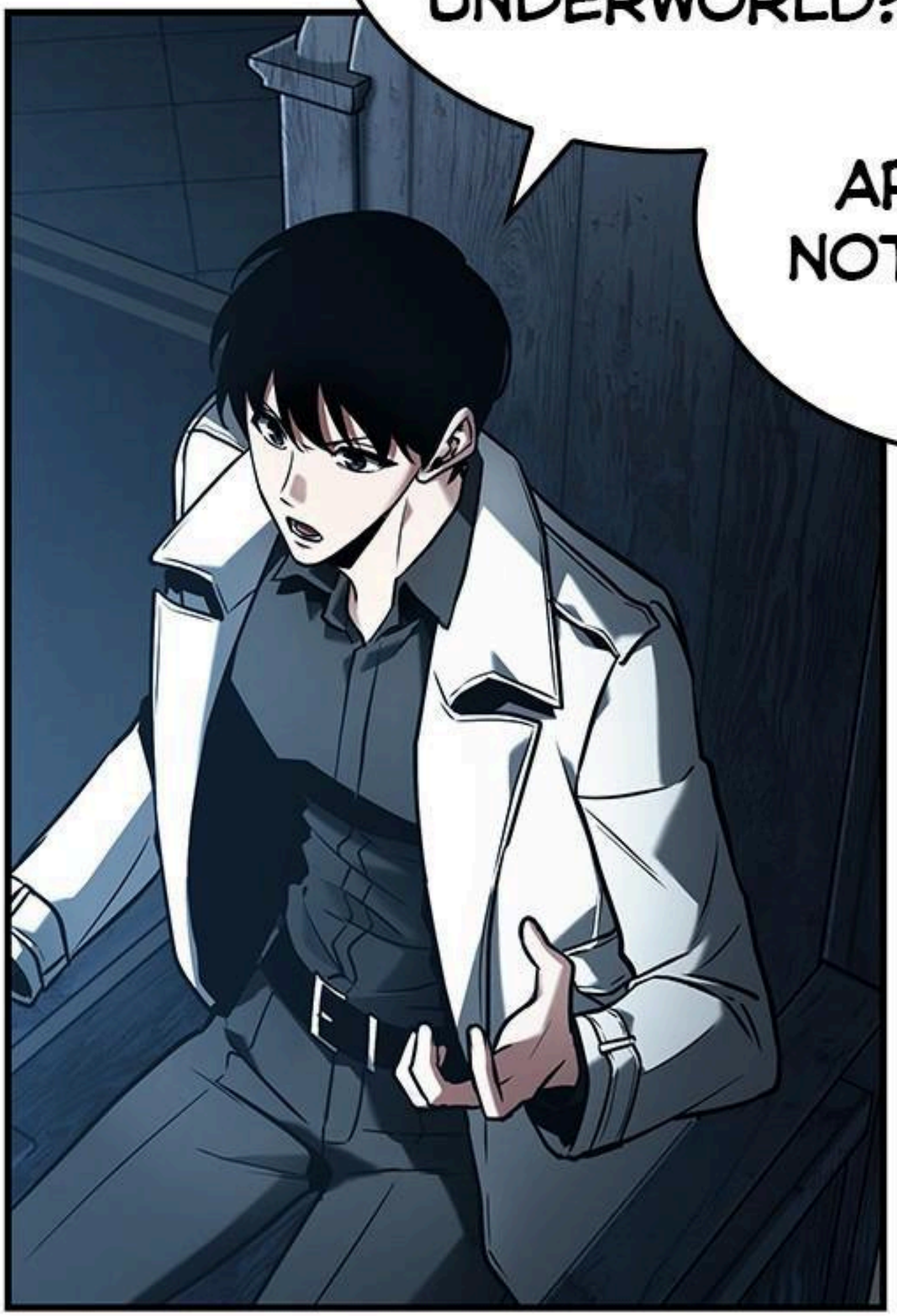
THERE IS NO
SUCH THING AS
A SOUL.



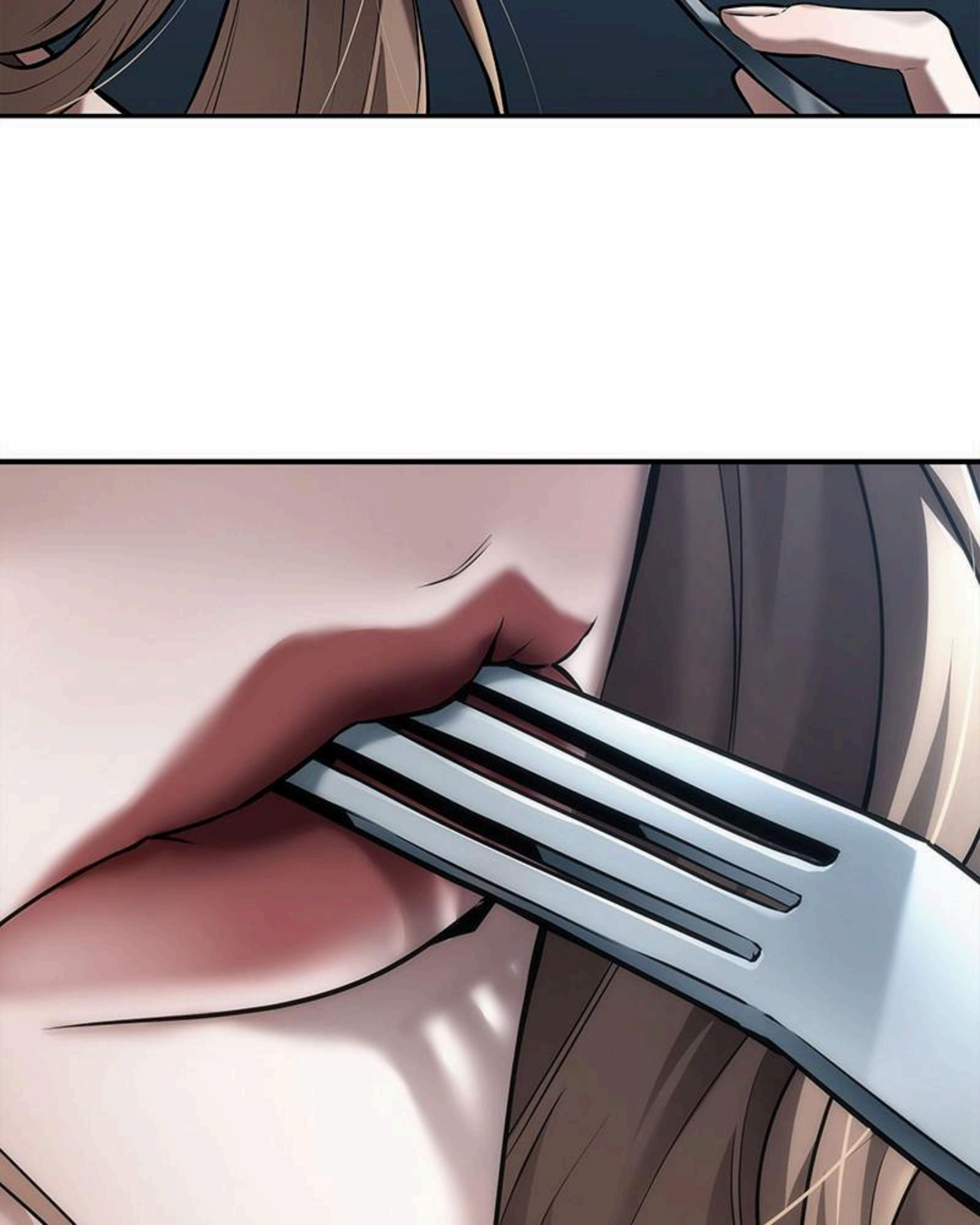
THEN WHAT
ABOUT THE

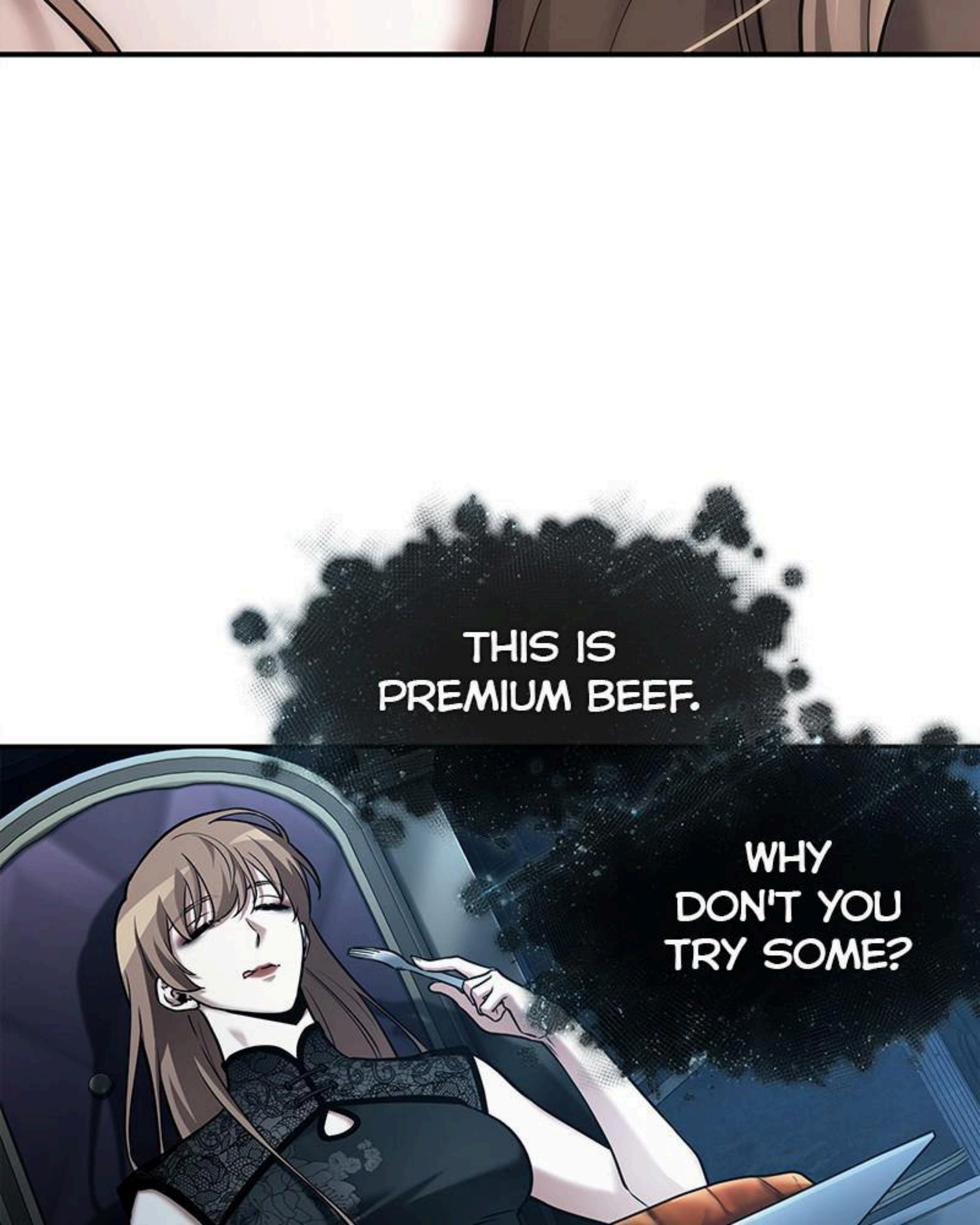
ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF THE UNDERWORLD?

ARE THEY NOT SOULS?



THEY ARE
LIKE *THIS*.

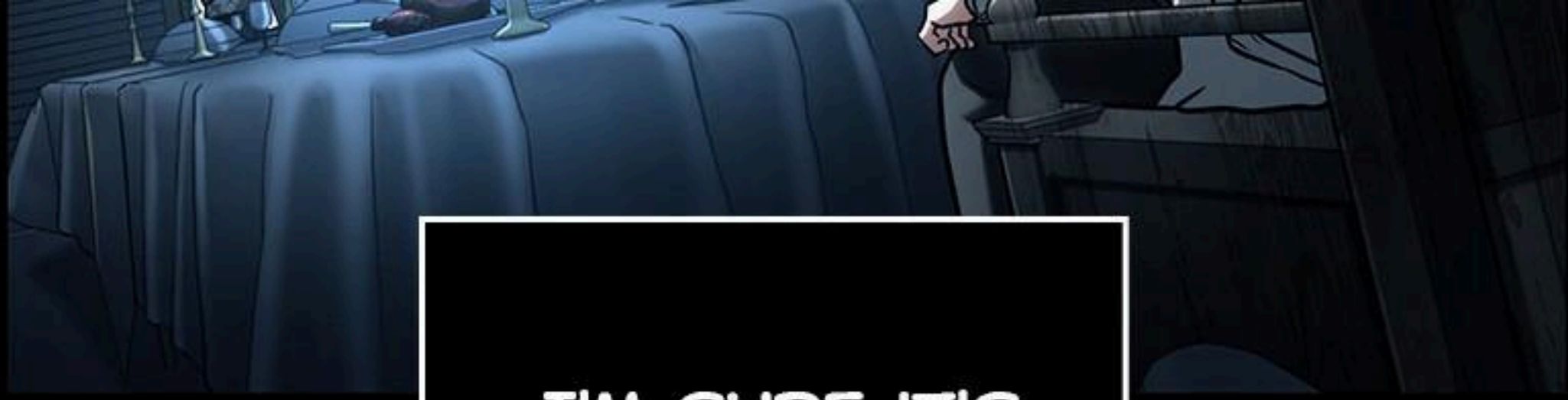



THIS IS
PREMIUM BEEF.
WHY
DON'T YOU
TRY SOME?

NO.

ARE YOU GOING TO DECLINE MY OFFER?

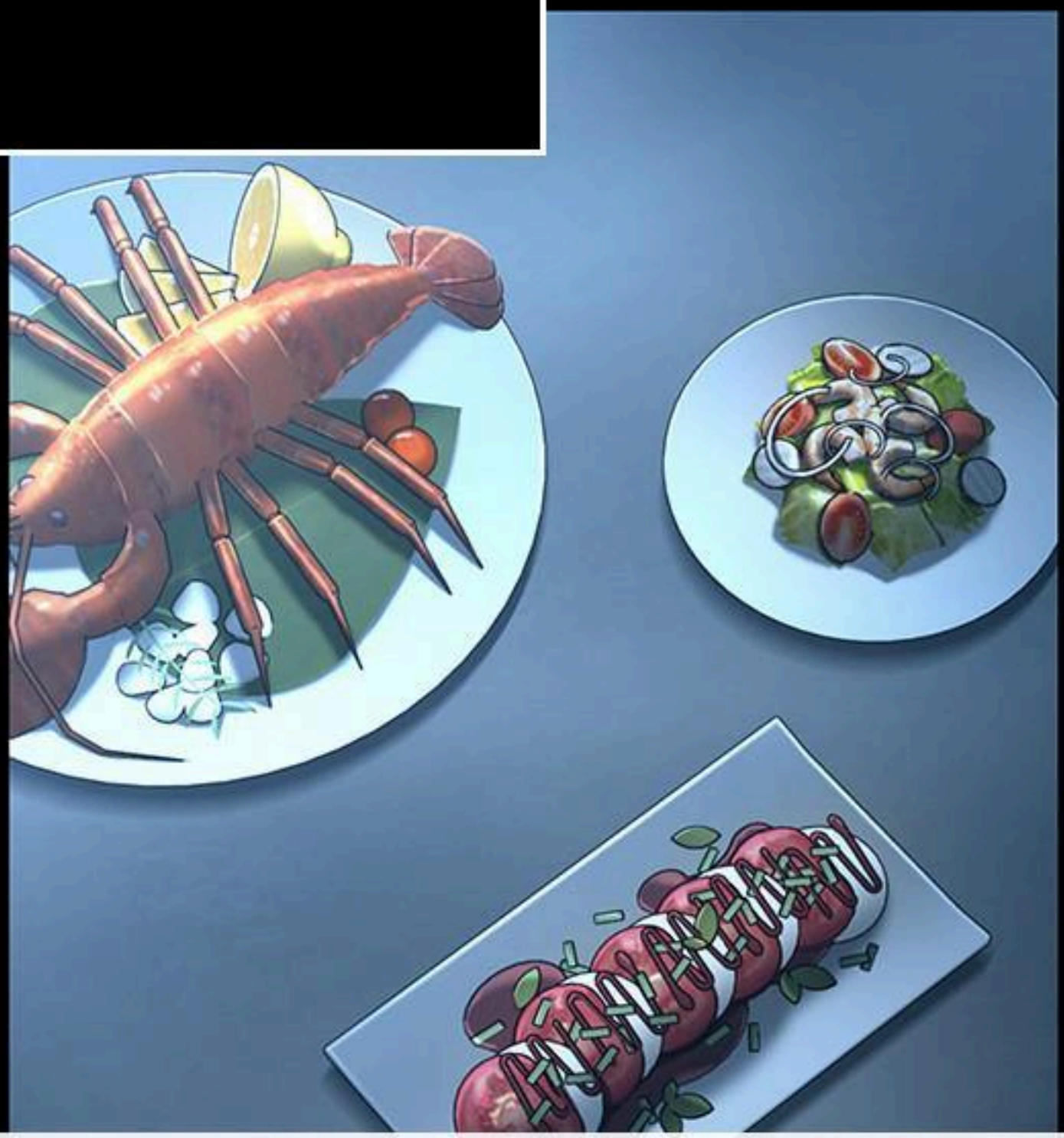
YES.
I'M SORRY
BUT I MUST.



I'M SURE IT'S DELICIOUS.

TWSA DESCRIBES HOW DELICIOUS IT IS OVER 12 PAGES.

BUT AT THE VERY END...



"UNTIL HIS CURRENT ROUND ENDED, JUNGHYEOK HAD REGRETTED HAVING EATEN THE FOOD."

WHOEVER EATS
THE FOOD OF THE

UNDERWORLD...

CAN NEVER GO BACK TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.

SMIRK

LIFE IN THE UNDERWORLD ISN'T AS BAD AS YOU THINK.

YOU CAN VISIT THE LIVING REALM FREELY

AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THE PERMISSION OF THE KING.

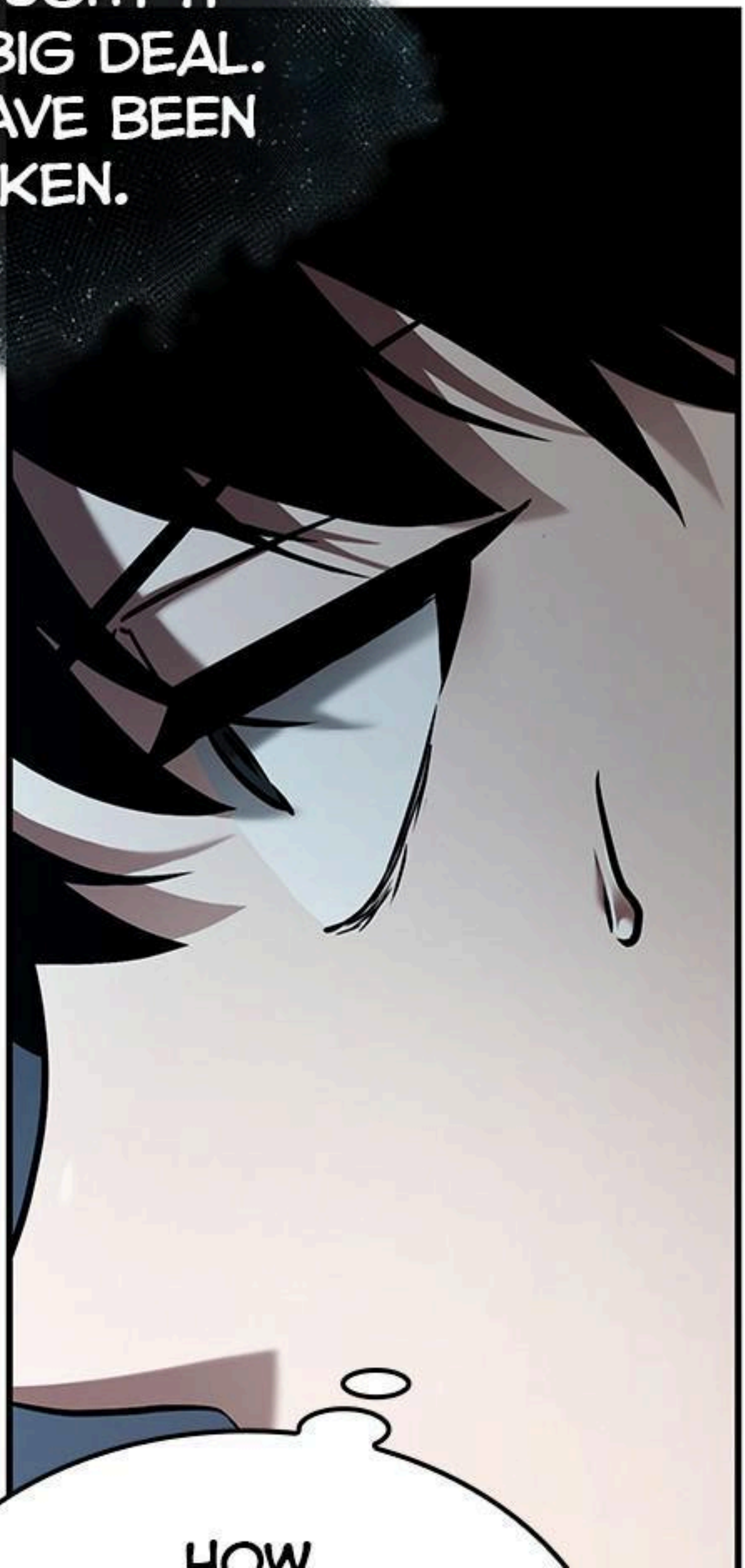
IT WOULD BE LIKE BEING IN A *PRIVATE MILITARY.*

BUT THE TIME I SERVED IN THE MILITARY WAS THE WORST I COULD EVER ASK FOR.

REALLY? BUT THE MEN IN YOUR COUNTRY ALWAYS SAY...

..."MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED IN THE ARMY."

SO I THOUGHT IT WASN'T A BIG DEAL. I MUST HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN.



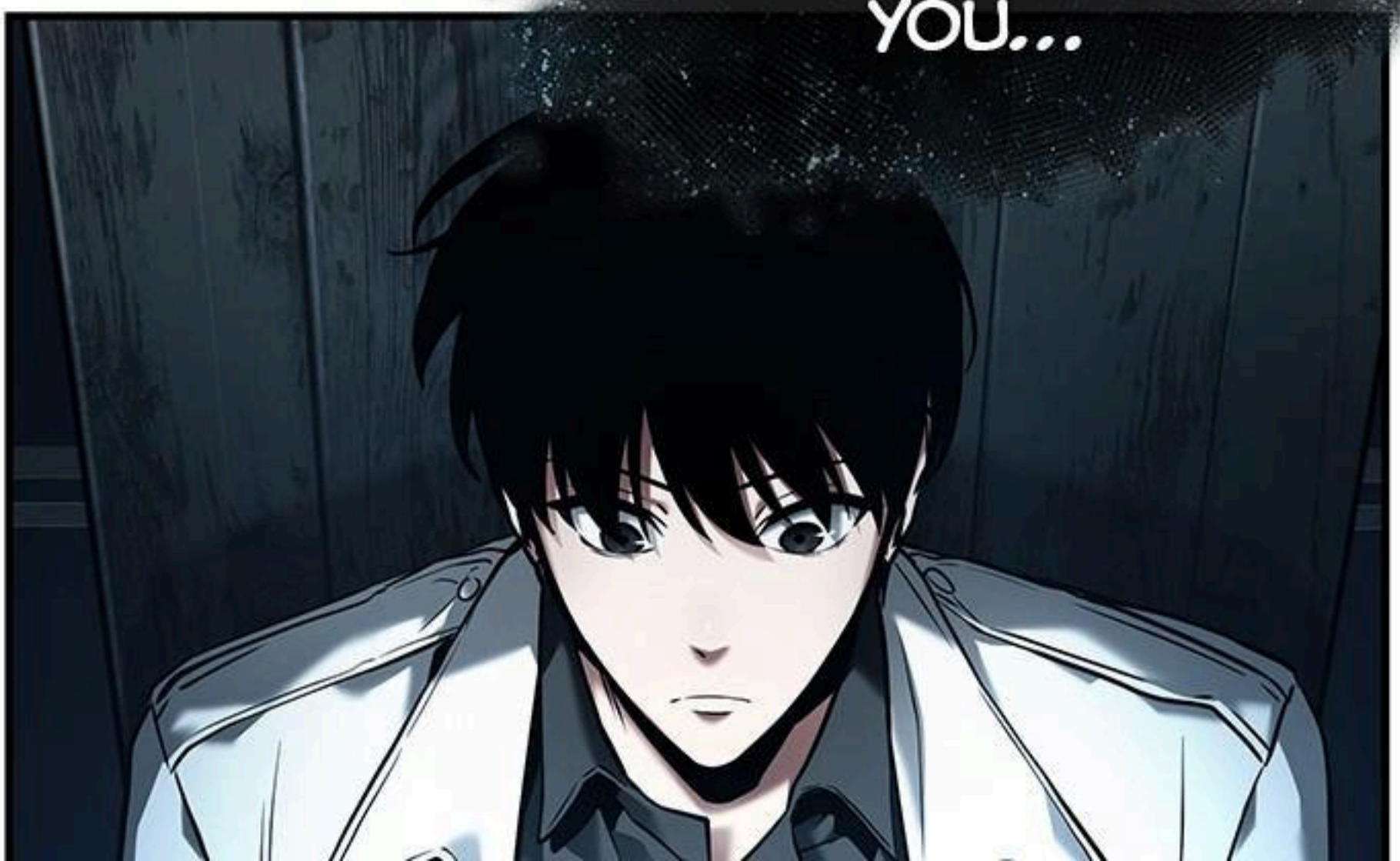
HOW

HOW DOES A GODDESS OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT KOREAN MEN?

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER WHO WANTED ME TO BECOME A SERGEANT SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT TOO.

I BET HE DIDN'T OFFER YOU A STEAK, DID HE?

FOR EXAMPLE, THAT STEAK YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU...



...WILL
IMMEDIATELY MAKE

YOU A SWORD MASTER.

!

BUT YOU CAN ONLY BECOME A ***SWORD MASTER*** AFTER YEARS AND YEARS OF ARDUOUS TRAINING IN THE OTHER DIMENSIONS...

AND THAT PASTA...

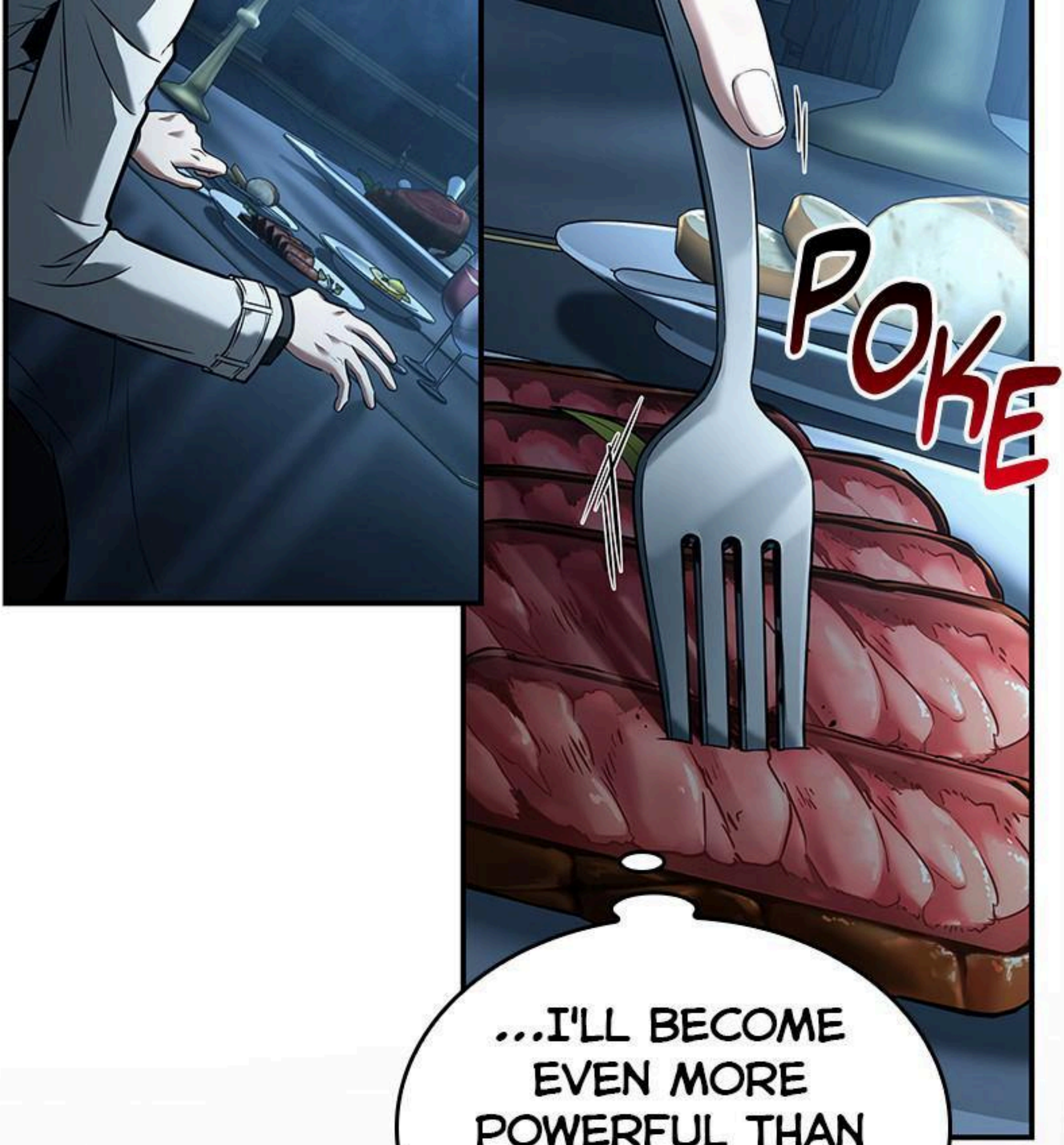
...WILL MAKE YOU AN *ARCHMAGE* WHO CAN REIGN OVER THE CONTINENTS

THE CONTINENTS.

THE SOUP?
IT WILL MAKE YOU
AN *SSS-GRADE*
HUNTER.

ARE YOU STILL GOING TO NOT EAT THEM?

IF I TAKE A BITE OF THIS STEAK...


POKE
...I'LL BECOME EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN JUNGHYEOK IN AN INSTANT.

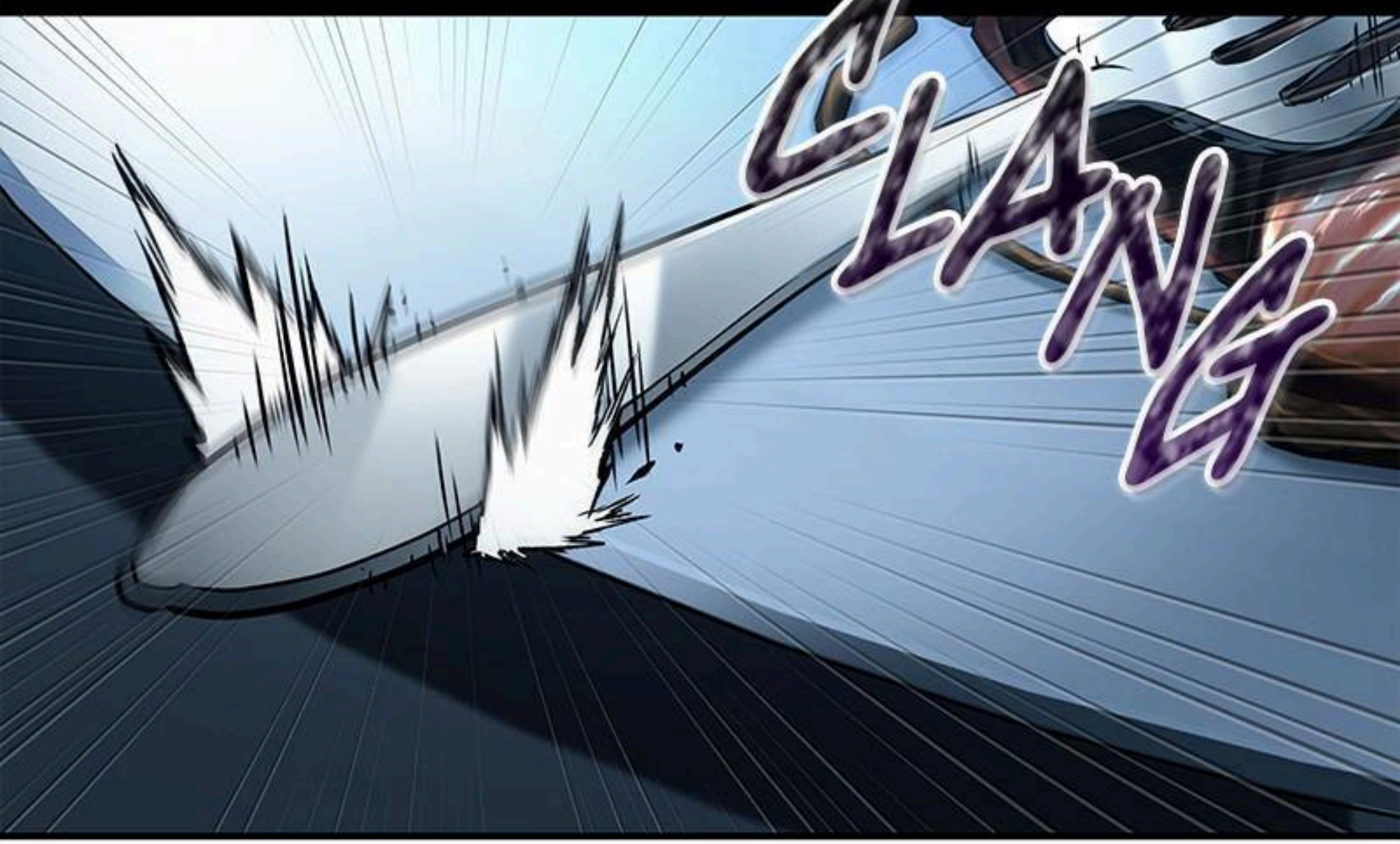
I CANNOT BE WEAK.

I MUST MASTER THE SWORD.

I WILL
WORK HARDER
AND HARDER
TO BECOME
STRONGER.

I-I DID IT!

I'VE
DONE IT!


CLANG

IS
THIS...?

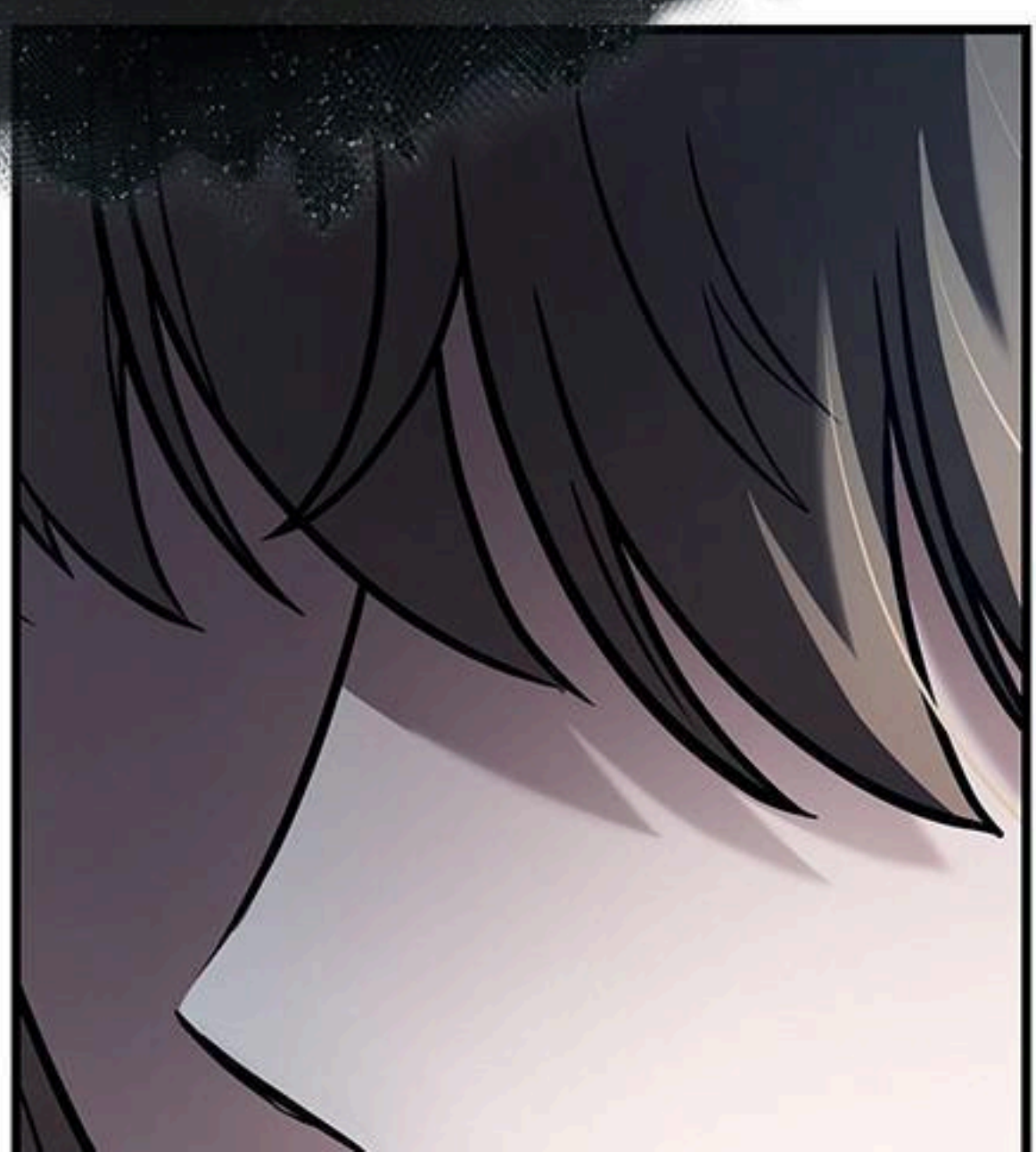
YES. THIS LITTLE PIECE OF MEAT...

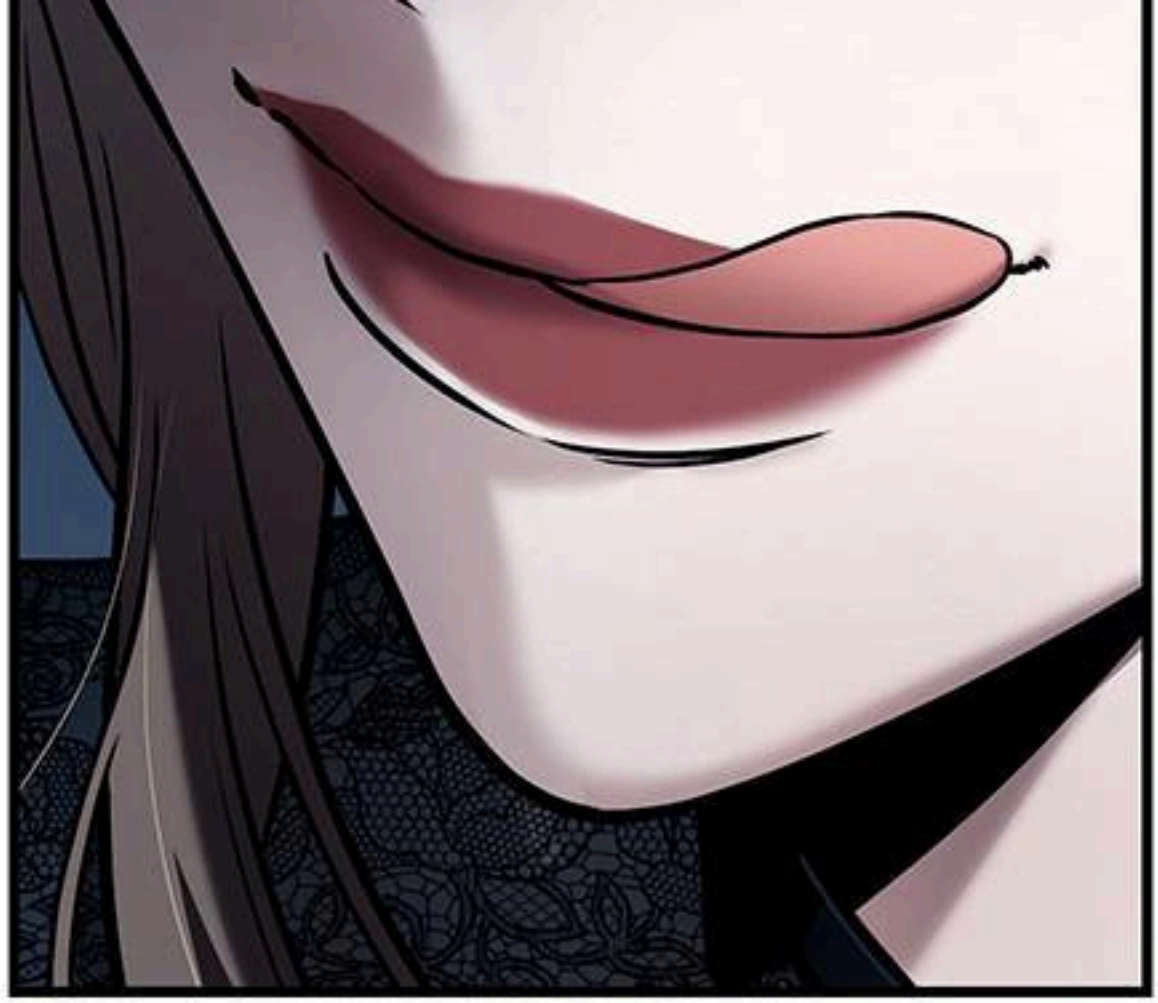
...IS WHAT HUMANS BELIEVE TO BE THEIR *SOUL*.

IT MUST BE THE MEMORIES OF SOMEONE WHO USED TO BE A SWORD MASTER.

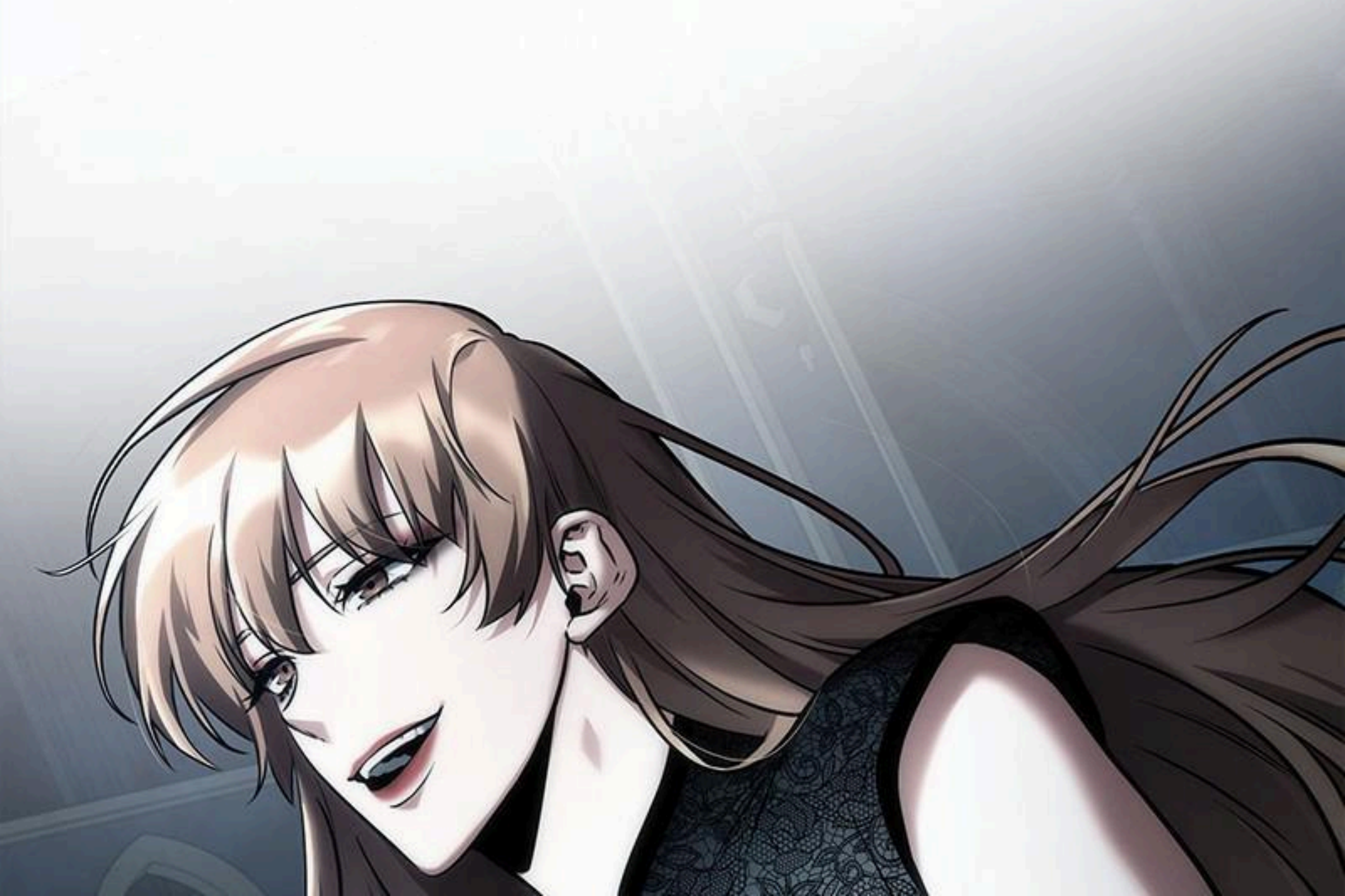
MEMORIES?
NO.

TO BE
PRECISE...





...IT'S THEIR STORY.



IT'S THE DISH THAT
CONSTELLATIONS
LOVE THE MOST.

THOSE WHO DEVOUR STORIES AND ARE STORY FANATICS.

THIS IS THE TRUE NATURE OF THE

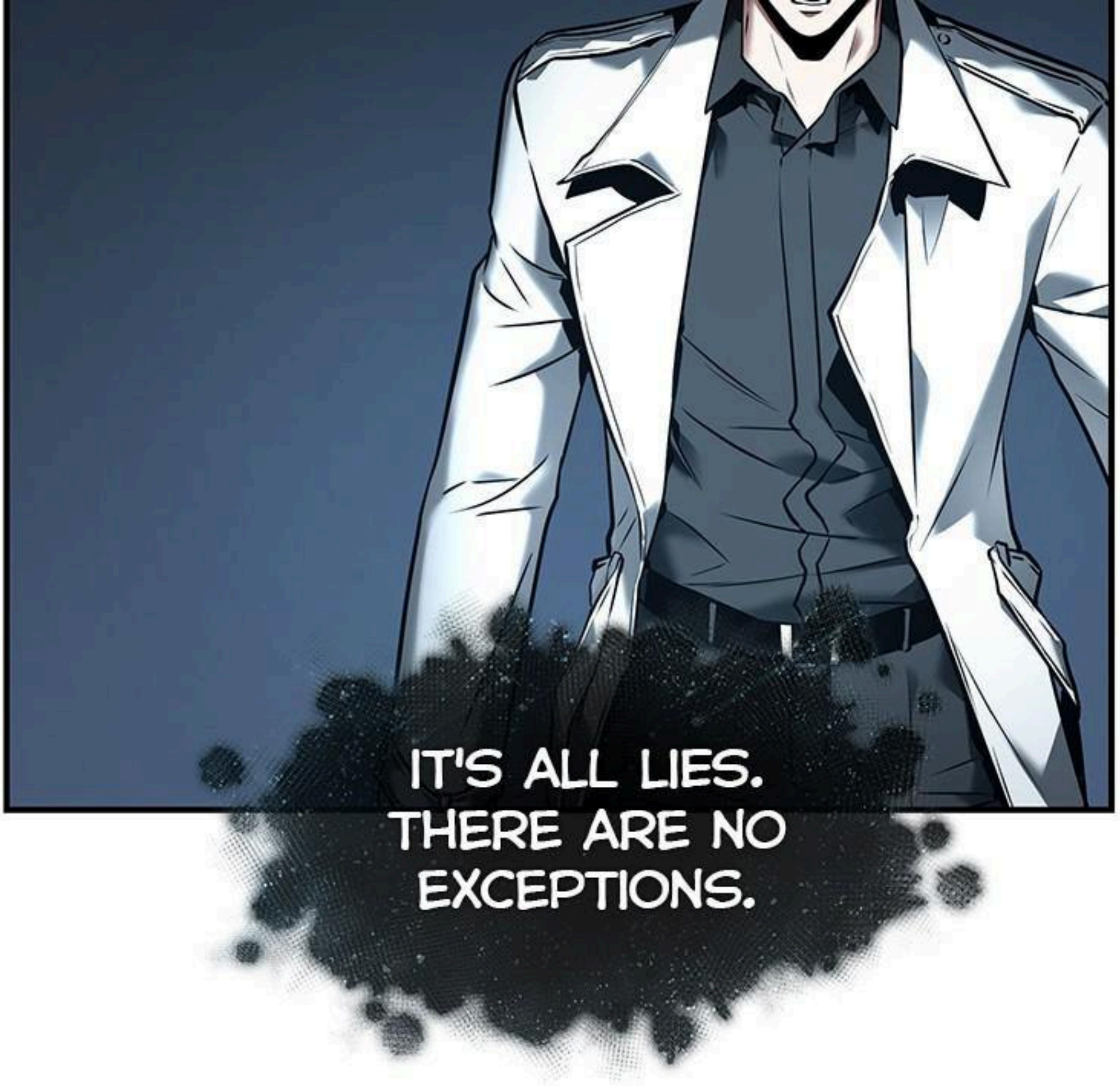
BEINGS YOU CALL CONSTELLATIONS.

DEATH IS LIKE AN ENDING TO A STORY.

JUST AS A SLAUGHTERED COW CANNOT BE REVIVED, DEAD PEOPLE CANNOT COME BACK TO LIFE...

...BECAUSE
THEIR STORY
HAS ENDED.

BUT I KNOW
THERE ARE
EXCEPTIONS.


IT'S ALL LIES.
THERE ARE NO
EXCEPTIONS.

CAN YOU SWEAR ON THE STYX?

THE GREEK GODS SWEAR ON THE STYX WHEN THEY MAKE A VOW.

EVEN ZEUS IS NOT EXEMPT

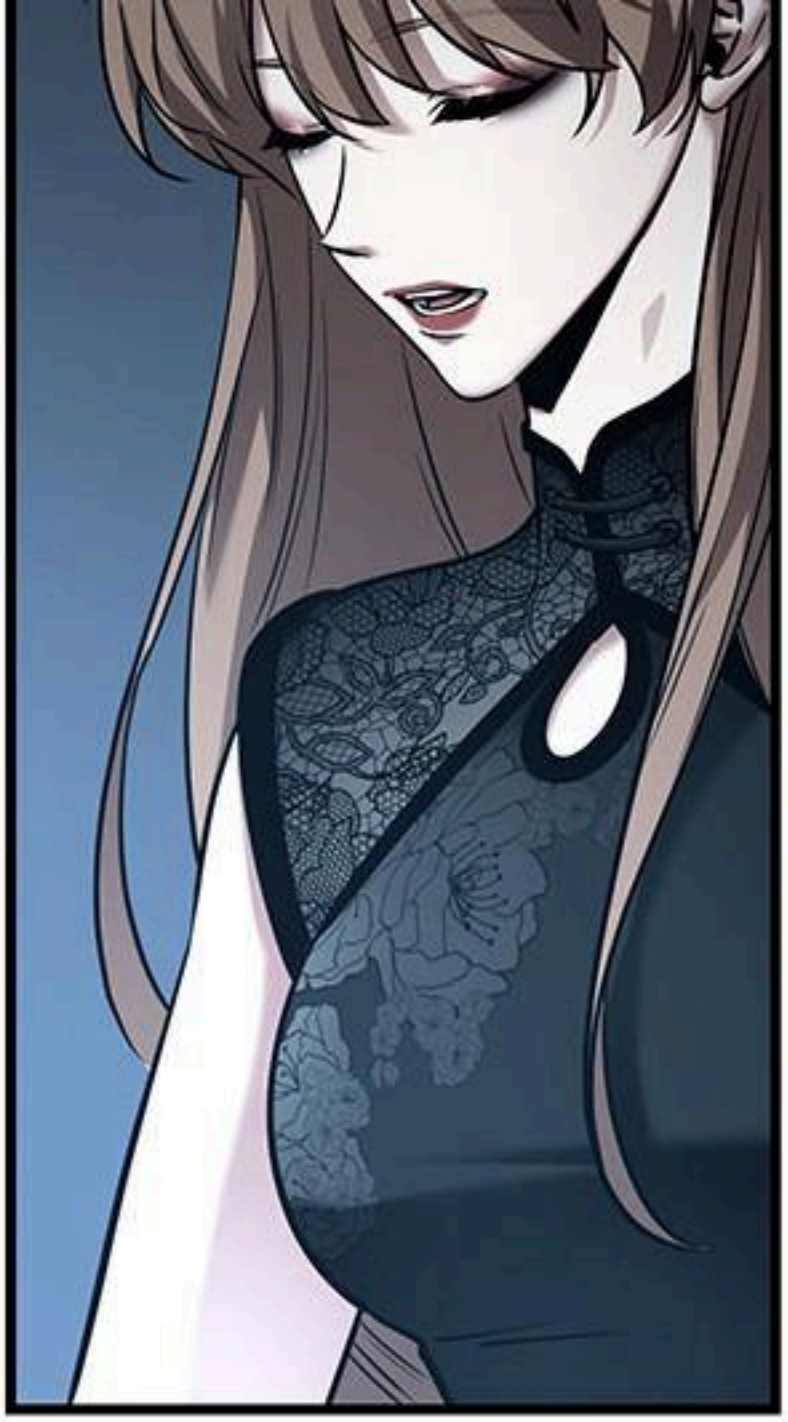
FROM THIS RULE.

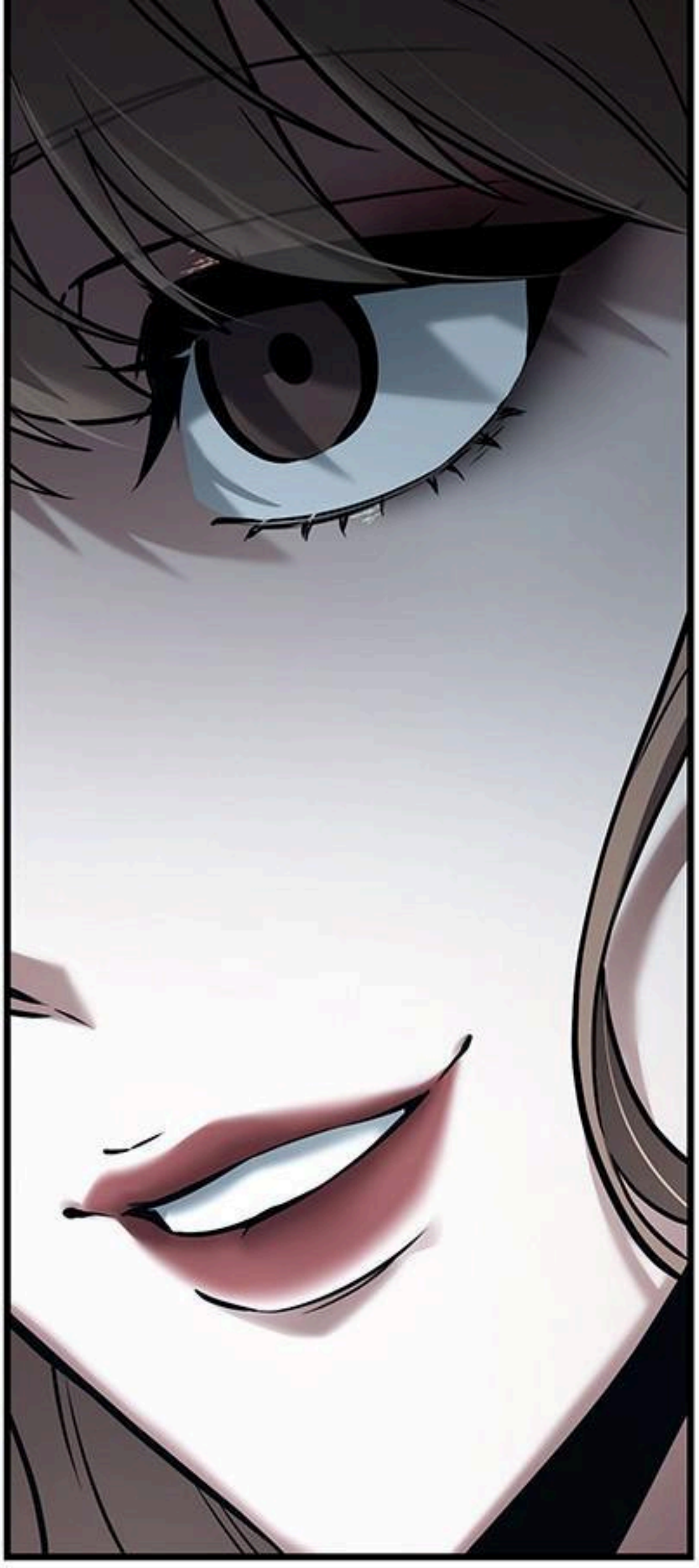
THE *SOUL* YOU REFER TO IS JUST A MISERABLE PILE OF STORIES.

YES, AND THAT PILE OF STORIES IS WHAT I WANT.

WHOEVER *LOOKS BACK* IN THE UNDERWORLD IS BOUND TO REGRET IT.

YOU NEED TO LEARN TO COPE WITH SOMETHING THAT'S ALREADY PASSED BY.



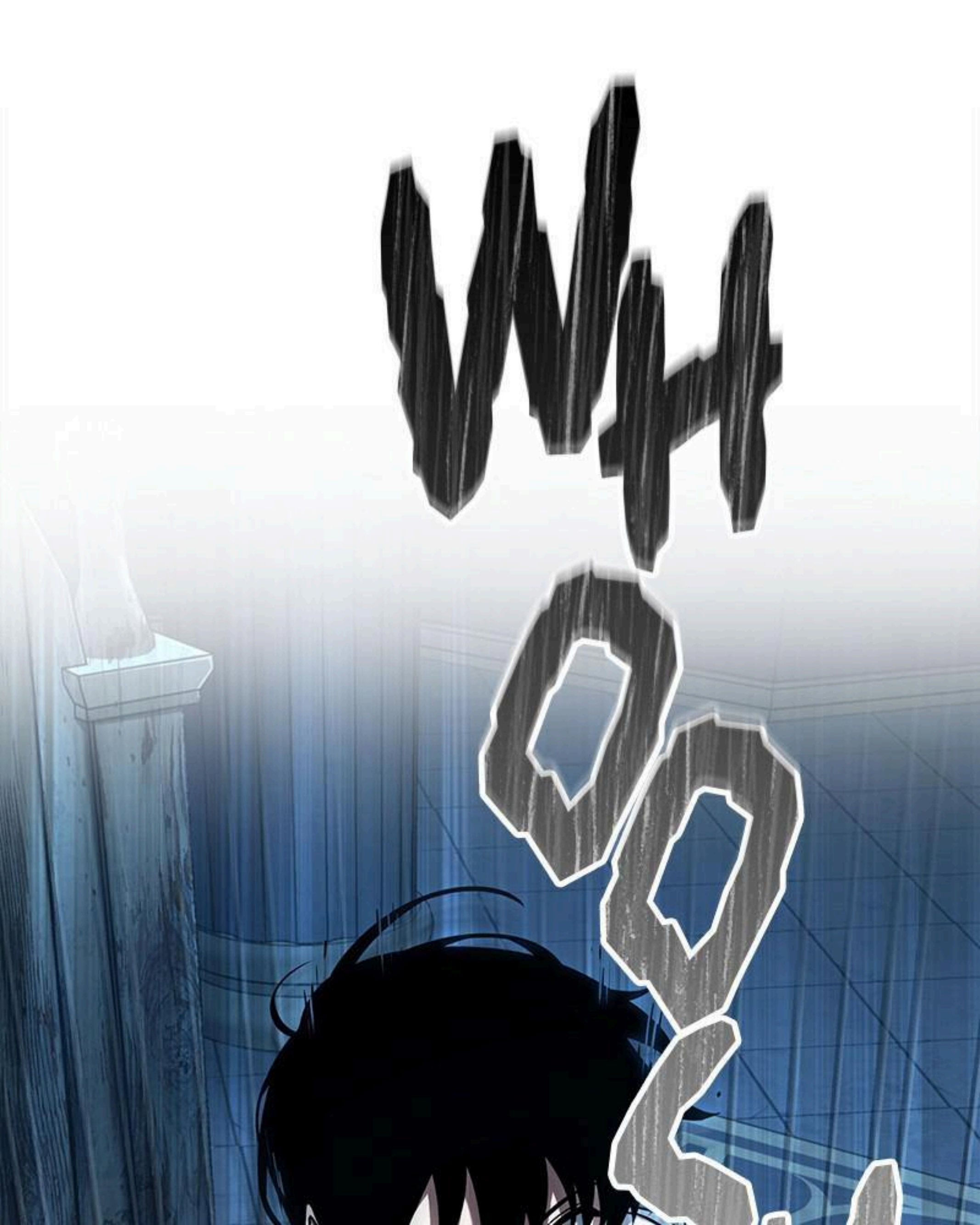


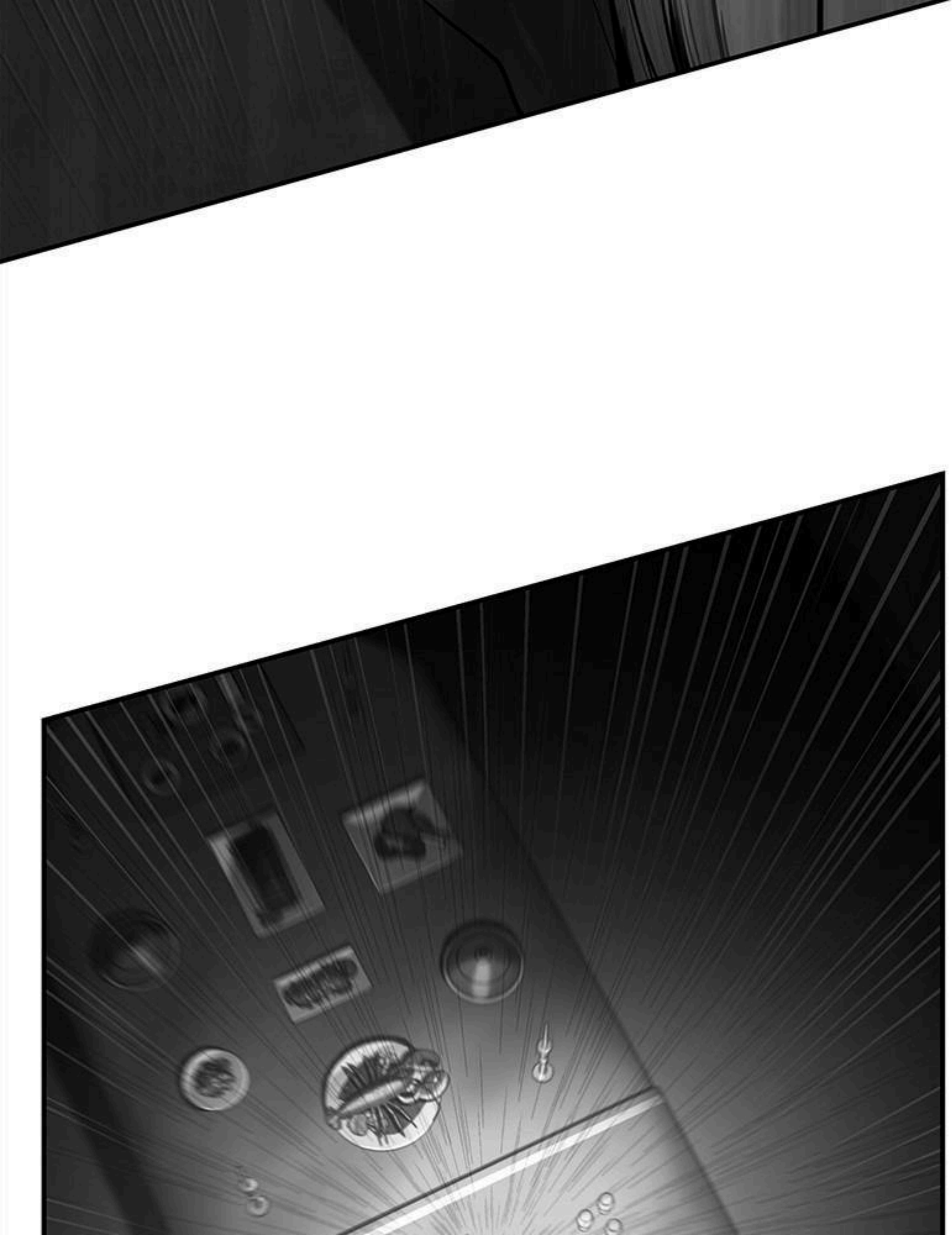
SO SHE'S GOING TO KEEP DENYING IT...
MY QUEEN.

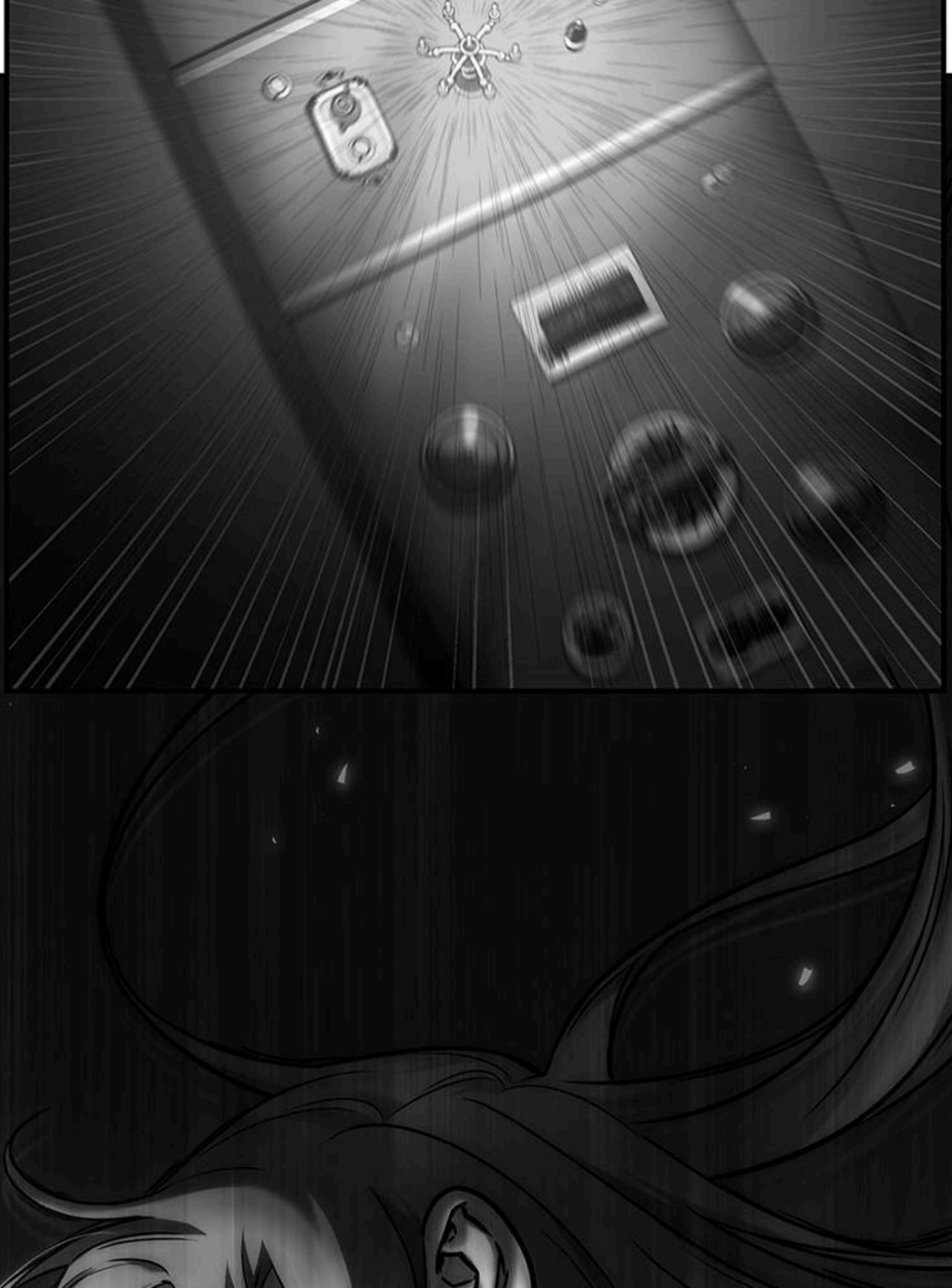
TIME DOESN'T JUST MOVE *FORWARD.*

I THOUGHT YOU'D KNOW THAT.

CLANK







LOOK.
I CAN FEEL A CHILL RUNNING ALL THE WAY THROUGH MY SOUL.

HOW CAN SHE DENY THE EXISTENCE OF SOULS WHEN I CAN FEEL IT?

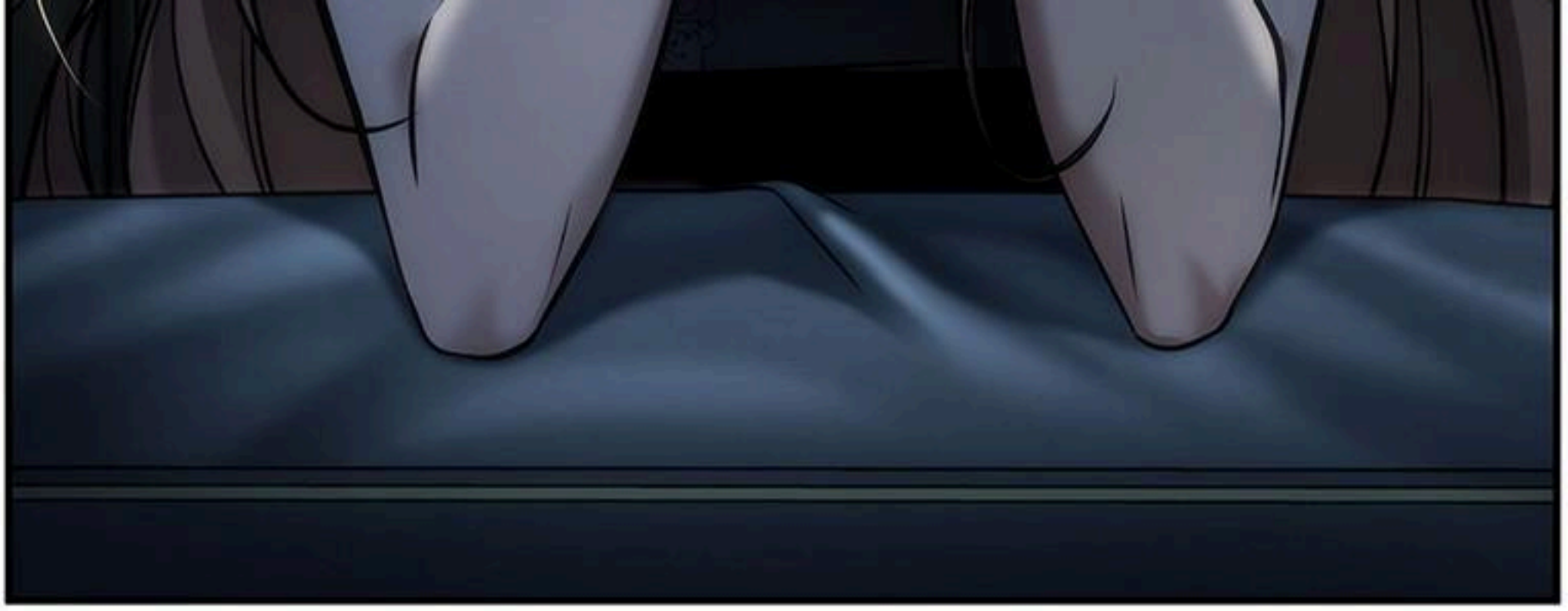
HAHA...

WHOO

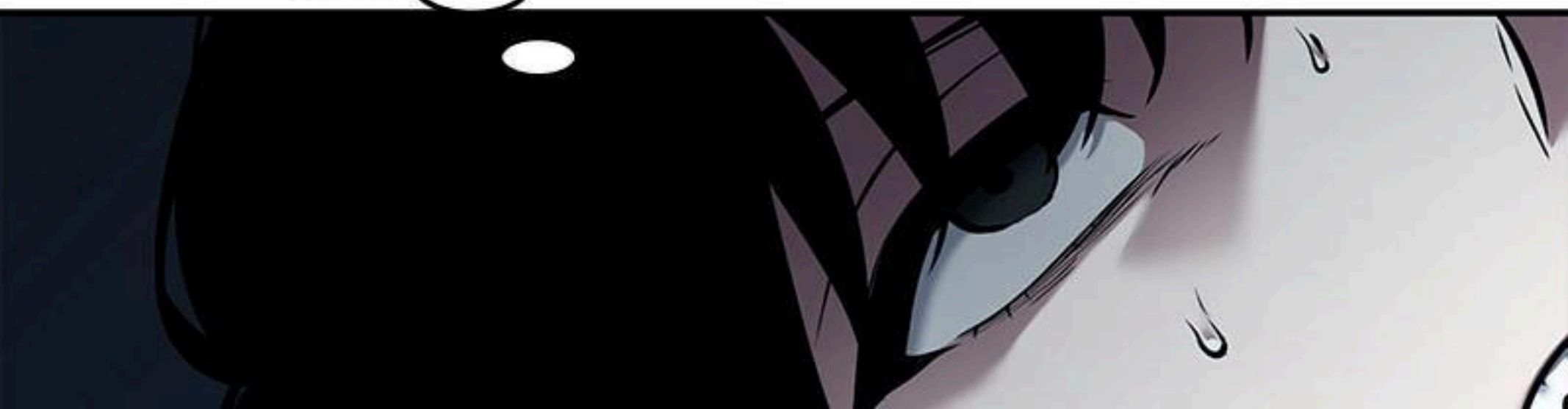
THIS IS FUN.

SH

YOU REALLY ARE A *SINGULARITY* AS THE CHILDREN OF OLYMPUS TOLD ME.



HER
SMILE HAS
CHANGED.



I COULD END UP DYING NOW IF I MAKE THE SLIGHTEST MISTAKE.

THAT'S NOT ALL I KNOW.

I HAVE SEEN THE TITAN SOLDIERS THAT ARE BEING BUILT IN TARTARUS.

IF YOU AGREE TO
MAKE A DEAL WITH

ME, I COULD HAVE THEM BUILT MUCH--

I'M NOT INTERESTED.

!

IT'S TRUE THAT *GIGANTOMACHIA* IS IMPORTANT...

...BUT WE'LL HAVE NO PROBLEMS COMPLETING THE TITAN SOLDIERS IN TIME.

DAMN IT.
I THOUGHT
THIS WOULD
DEFINITELY
WORK...

BUT, THERE'S
ONE THING

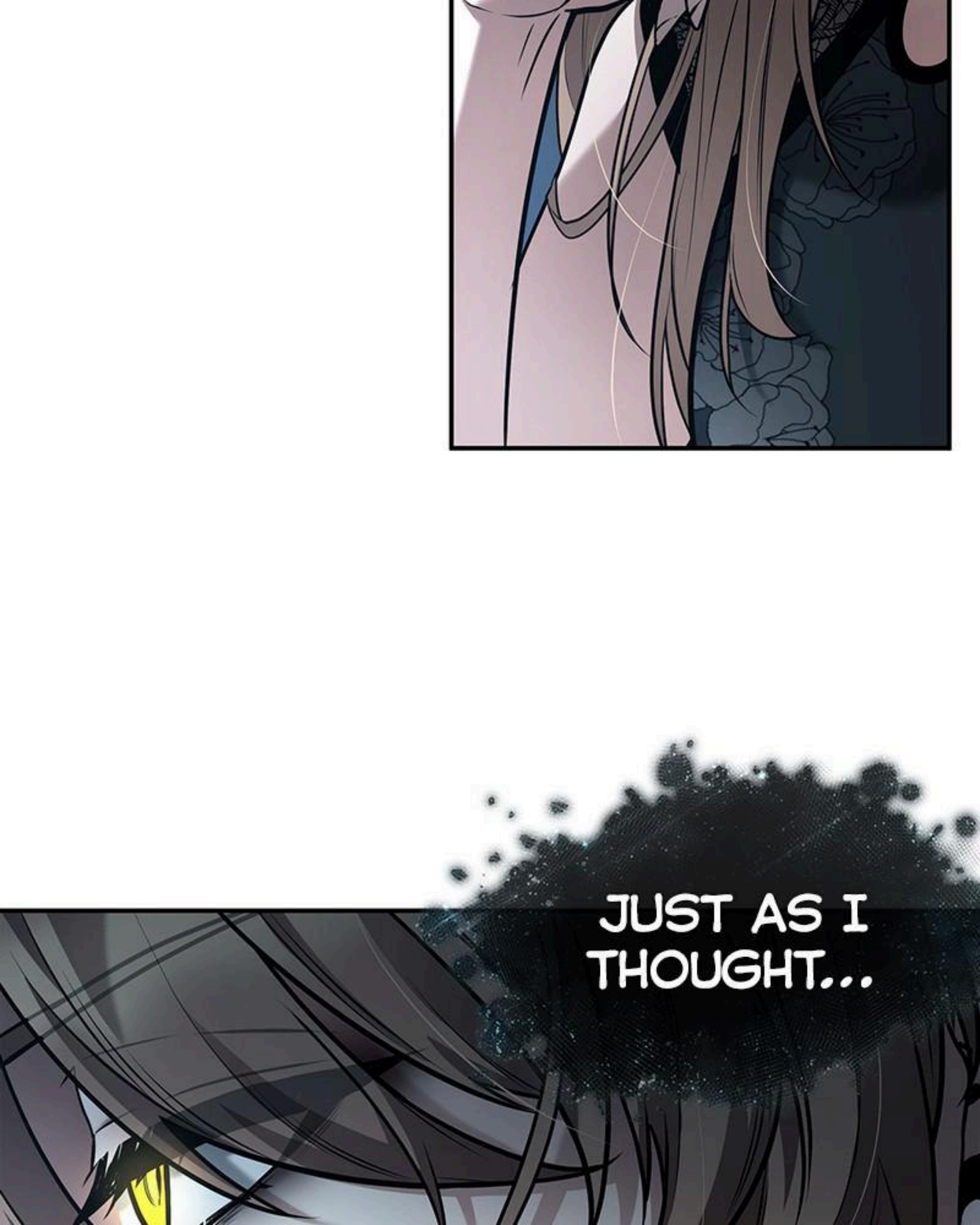
I WANT.

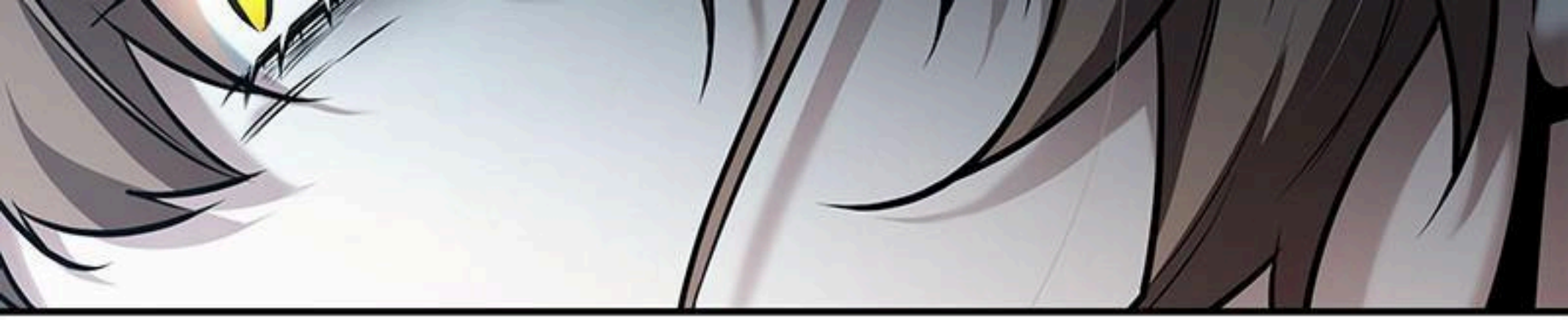
IF YOU TELL ME HOW YOU KNOW ALL OF THAT--

I CAN'T DO THAT.

TO BE HONEST, I DON'T EVEN THINK I CAN EXPLAIN IT

PROPERLY.


JUST AS I
THOUGHT...



'S

■■■ IS...

DING

[CONSTELLATION, *PRISONER OF THE GOLDEN HEADBAND*, CANNOT BELIEVE WHAT THEY ARE HEARING.]

[CONSTELLATION, *DEMONIC JUDGE OF FIRE*, IS SURPRISED.]

[CONSTELLATION, *SCRIBE OF HEAVEN*, CRITICIZES THE QUEEN'S INDISCRETION.]

DING

[CONSTELLATION, *SECRETIVE PLOTTER*, BEGINS TO PONDER.]

DING

DING

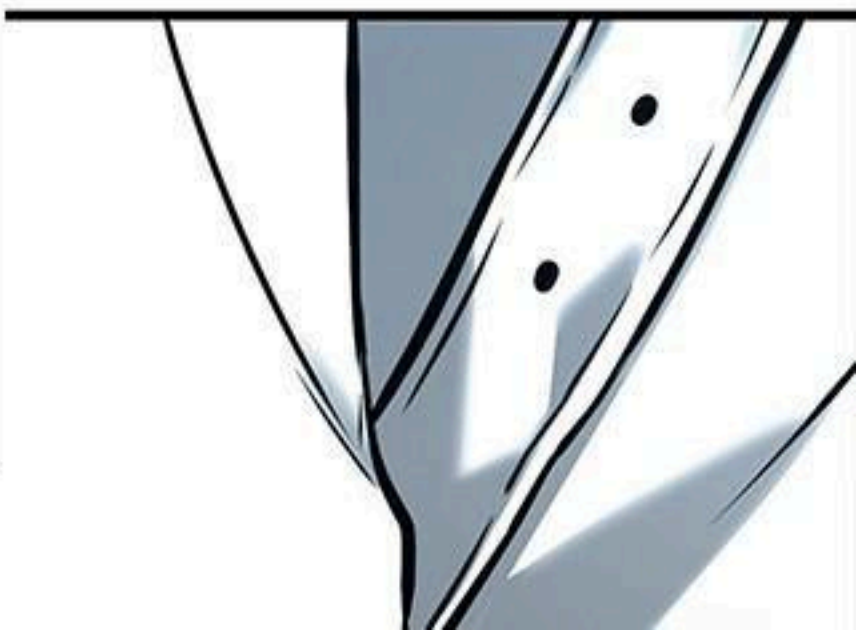
DING

WHY DON'T YOU BE QUIET SINCE YOU'RE ALL GUESTS HERE?

WHAT?

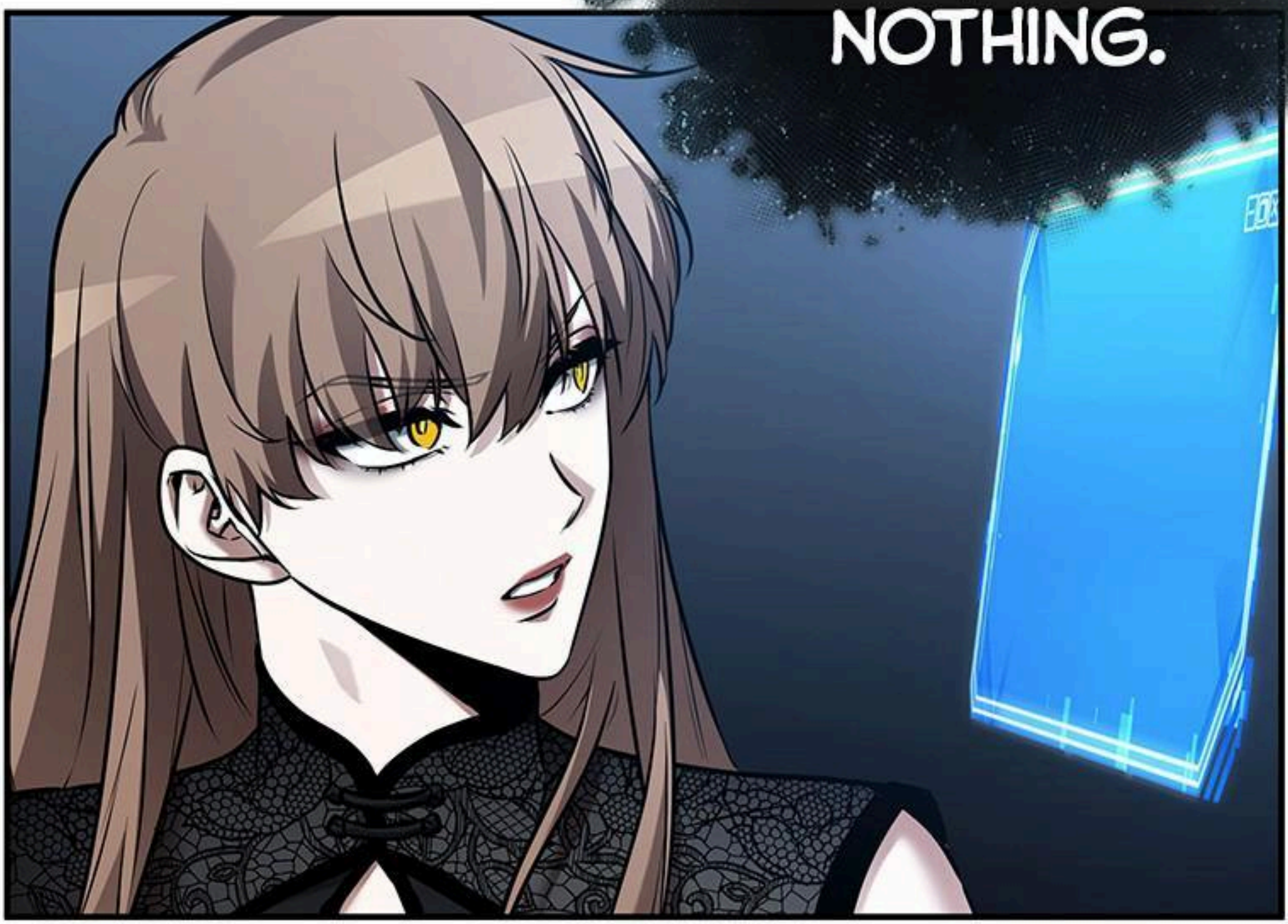
WHAT?

WHAT DID I JUST HEAR?

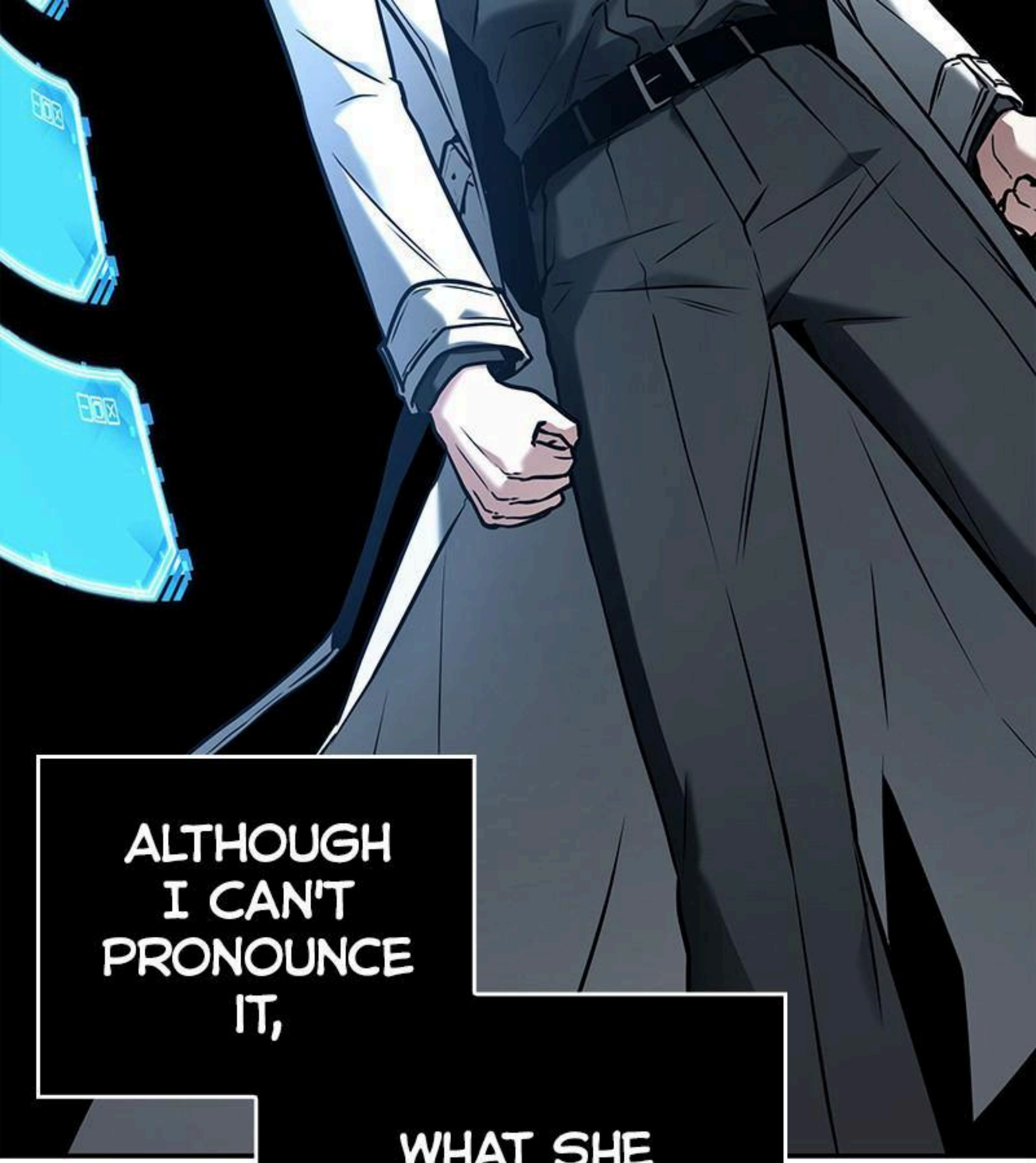


WHAT...

DID YOU JUST SAY?


OH, IT'S NOTHING.

■...?


ALTHOUGH I CAN'T PRONOUNCE IT,
WHAT SHE JUST SAID WAS FILTERED TO ME.

ALL INFORMATION THAT IS PERTINENT TO AN UNKNOWN SCENARIO IS FILTERED.

BUT THAT DOESN'T APPLY TO THOSE WHO ALREADY HAVE THAT INFORMATION.

WHAT IS GOING ON?

THERE'S STILL INFORMATION I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'VE READ *TWSA* IN ITS ENTIRETY?

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